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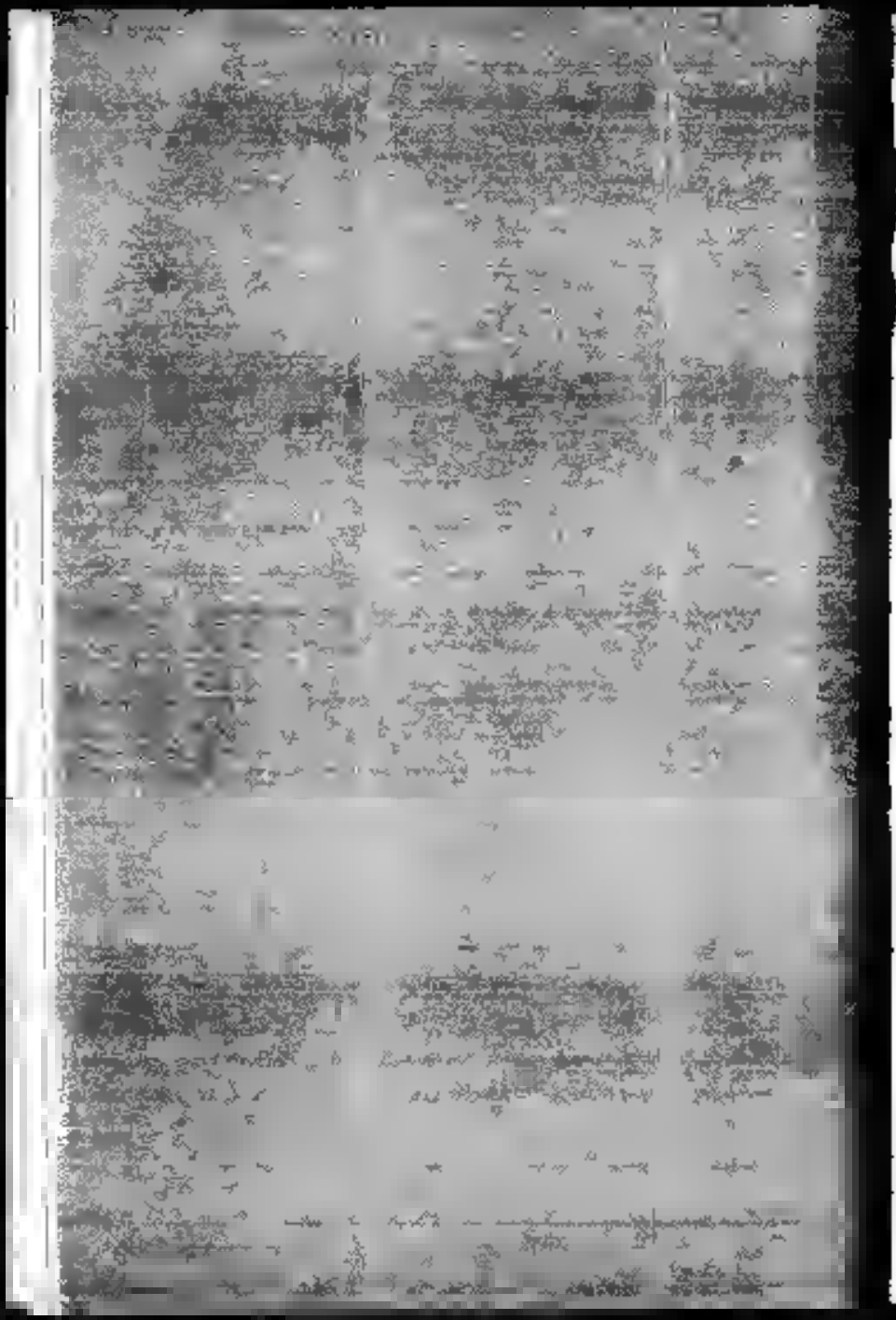
The Thunder Bay Historical Society

Fourteenth Annual Report

PAPERS OF 1923



The Thunder Bay Historical Society

Fourteenth Annual Report

Papers of 1923

Thunder Bay Historical Society

OFFICERS 1923-24

Honorary Presidents	Honorable Sir Carnegie E. Foster Mr Peter McKellar F R G.S.
Honorary Patron and Patroness	Mr and Mrs. N. M. W. J. Mackenzie
President	Mr John King
Vice Presidents	Mrs. Peter McKellar
Secretary-Treasurer	Miss M. J. L. Black

COMMITTEE

Capt. McCannel	Mrs. G. A. Graham	Mrs. J. M. Shenk
Mr. C. W. Jarvis	Major W. J. Hamilton	Mr F. C. Perry
	Mr Alex. McNaughton.	

AUDITORS

Mrs. C. W. Jarvis and Miss Pamphylon.

Secretary-Treasurer's Report

MISS M J L BLACK

To the President and Members of the Thunder Bay Historical Society

Sir and Fellow Members

I beg to report that during the year we have held four regular meetings all at the house of the President — On Oct. 27 the speaker was Mr McKellar whose paper was on "The Little Pic Silver Mine" This paper was continued on Dec. 29th On July 11th 1923 the speaker was Capt. McCannel his subject being "Shipping on the Great Lakes." (By the speaker's request this paper will not be published until next year) On September 21 a paper was provided by Mr Alex. McNaught on "A Trip to the Farm" at a visit from the work of Professor H. M. Bland on "Temperature in the Kaministiquia Valley" in 1857 Captain McCannel also sent us a reading, concerning the Loss of the S. S. Resort of its crew by ice to Lake Superior in 1854.

We have a paid up membership of 13.

It is with great regret that we note the loss of one of our most faithful and popular members, in the person of Mrs. F C Pirty She was a charter member and always showed the greatest interest in our work. She will long be missed by us all.

The Society was fortunate to receive from Capt McCannel a set of photographs of four of the earliest boats plying in Thunder Bay the Algoma, the Ploughboy the Waubaise, and the Cumberland We have also received in exchange various interesting and valuable reports and annuals

Respectfully submitted,

M J L BLACK,
Secretary.

THUNDER BAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Financial Statement

Receipts

Oct 1 1922—	
Balance in bank	$ 1 80
Government grant	100.00
Membership Fees	11.00
Mr J. M Clark	
Mr Fred Pregeau	
Miss Robin	
Capt McCannell	
Mr and Mrs C W Jarvis	
Mr and Mrs G. A. Graham	
Mr and Mrs. John King	
Mr and Mrs. Peter McKellar	
Miss Hunt	
	$116.00

Disbursements

Affiliation fee to Canadian Historical Society	$ 5.00
Printing Annual Report	32.25
Oct. 1, 1923, bal. in bank	28 75
	$116 00

The Little Pic Silver Mine

BY PETER McKELLAR

REPORT OF THE DEVELOPMENTS TO THE HON. WM. DAYLEY AND ASSOCIATES

Sirs

I have the honour of reporting to you as follows in reference to the Developments of the Little Pic Locations.

According to Agreement on receipt of the first instalment of $500.00 cheque from you, I proceeded to Port William and supplies and arrived on the 12th of June last from Fort William on Tug Watchman (specially chartered for our use) to the Locations which are distant from Fort William about 180 miles—arriving at our destination on the 14th. We worked steadily without intermission until the 21st of August last when work was closed. I returned with all hands and 20 tons of ore as sample of that from No 1 Shaft, in the same Tug with Schooner Mary-Ann in tow sent specially to bring us back.

We opened and mined in one Drift and four Shafts besides making some 20 cross-cuts in the overlying drift or earth, covering a mile in extent along the vein, for the purpose of tracing it as it had been exposed on high places only and at long intervals. One Shaft 8 by 12 feet was sunk 4 to 6 feet, one 7 by 4 was sunk 4 feet, one 4 by 10 feet was sunk 13 feet and the other or No 1 Shaft on it, 4 by 11 feet, was sunk to the depth of 24 feet, and well timbered with a good windlass in position. The Drift was driven 29 feet from the place of beginning getting 6 feet under cover. At 10 of the cross-cuts the rock was not reached owing to the depth of earth. At two or three others some 4 to 10 feet 6 to 8 inches in width but in most places it is over 2 feet wide and in many over 4 feet. The vein is subject to decomposition of surface as the with a few exceptions, we were unable to reach the solid though we followed it down in many places 7 to 8 feet in the gissler between the two walls. Wherever we blasted into the solid rock we found the argentiferous ores in considerable quantities. And, at each place in sinking we noticed a decided improvement in the ore both in quality and quantity until in the deepest shaft near the bottom we discovered native Silver in thin leaves and fine particles through the veinstone.

About nine tons of ore was mined—3 in the Drift and 3 of each of the two deepest Shafts—of course, only a portion of what was taken out. Over two tons of that from No. 1 Shaft was packed to the Shore and brought Away in bags as tested. One of the barrels contains about 400 pounds of the Argentiferous conpaca pine ore from the bottom of the 40 feet Shaft. An average specimen of which (about 4 pounds) was pulverized and an average sample taken by Mr. Child. Any assayer of the Duncan Mine it yielded at ves $13 12 per ton. A sample of the galena ore (of which there is a considerable quantity) from the bottom of the same shaft was tested by Mr Childby and when ascertaining his gangue by washing it yielded $134 24 per ton, of silver besides that the lead would be worth $60 00 to $60.00 per ton so that the ore when washing would be worth About $200 per ton. The galena at surface in the Shaft yielded $12.00 of silver to the ton while as silver shown At 24 feet yielded $144.00. Again in a native silver is showing in fine particles at the bottom we in at surface none was seen, besides he quantity of ore is much greater below therefore there is every indication that at a greater depth it will be much richer. I have made repeated tests, with the Blow-pipe, of the ore from the 3 Several Shafts a very nice depths and found always carried the silver in more in less quantities and apparently improving in depth.

All doubts of its giving out by sinking will be dispelled, when it is known that it has been tested for about 3 miles, showing the same characteristics and even throughout and that it cuts the vertical notable (country-rock) at an angle of 40° with their strike, and also the intrusive dykes of trap and porphyry which in the vicinity are numerous

On the location in a fine water-power is the most favorable situation possible for working these ores. It is immediately adjacent to the 30 foot Shaft and could be worked at least 8 months in the year and I believe the whole 12 months, with a small outlay in securing it from the frost

I have brought to Toronto 2 barrels of samples, which, for your satisfaction I propose to have examined by Professor Chapman. In order to get his opinion as to whether or not it would be advisable to have two tons of ore, now lying at Wallace Mountain, before proceeding any further

They can be treated either at Newark N.J. or Wyandotte, but in small parcels like this it costs $100.00 per ton. For my part I am perfectly satisfied, without going to the expense of testing the 2 tons, that the developments show it, if possible, be carried on this winter the results already obtained, in my mind, very satisfactory. In conclusion I would say that my working of the lode has further has strengthened me in the belief previously expressed to you that it is a rich silver lode which on requires development to prove remunerative

I see by an extract in the Engineering and Mining Journal of July 24th, from the Report of the Census Bureau of Mining Statistics (United States) that the "Hale and Norcross" one of the famous Mines on the Great Comstock Silver Lode, which has attained the enormous depth of 2000 feet and of course requiring very expensive machinery to be going etc had worked during the years 17,440 tons of ore which yielded $250,841.13— a yield of ore from $17.00 per ton and in some mines ores yielding much less is worked. Now when even if this can be worked with profit in Nevada where labour, fuel, and supplies of all kinds are so much more expensive than on Lake Superior surely we can work with profit ores of a much lower grade being directly connected by water with numerous railway centres and large manufacturing Cities of the United States and Canada. The present manager's developments at Silver Island prove this beyond dispute for I am credibly informed that the cost of mining stamping and separating the ores does not exceed $9.50 per ton, the yield of the ore worked being $15 to $20 per ton. The shipping and further reduction of the concentrated ore will amount to a trifle on account of its richness

We have a great advantage over the Silver Islet Company in having a great length of vein on the dry land and a good water power close at hand to drive the machinery

I remain,

Your Obedient Servant,

PETER McNICOLL.

Toronto, 28th September 1870

The Little Pic Copper Mine

by PETER McKELLAR

This report is drawn up under the following heads. (1) Preliminary Remarks; (2) Site and General Description of the Property; (3) Mineral Features; (4) Result of Assays and Test in the Large Way; (5) Buildings and Mining Plant on the Property; (6) Proposed System of Working the Mine; (7) Approximate Estimates Required to Place the Mine in Running Order; (8) General Description of the Silver Lode.

(1) PRELIMINARY REMARKS — The property upon which this report is made is traversed by two distinct metalliferous lodes. The one intersecting location K138 is a copper ore lode carrying gold and silver; the other intersecting locations V-49, V-50 and V-51 carries the ores of lead and zinc, chemically rich in silver. The property is situated on the North Shore of Lake Superior nearly opposite the Pie Island and about 140 miles east of Fort William. Location V-51 fronts on a bay which forms an excellent natural harbor at Lake Superior ports of steamers will call whenever business requires it. I have had very favorable opportunities of gaining information of the mineral characteristics of this as all the works were carried on under my own supervision, and I can conscientiously say that I believe it is seldom that capital is invested in mining on so sure a foundation.

(2) SITE AND GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY — The property comprises altogether the following locations:

(1)	K-138—5½ miles N. W of Harbor Bay	51 acres.
(2)	V 49—1½ miles N. of Harbor Bay	160 acres.
(3)	V 50—Adjoining V-49 on the West	160 Acres.
(4)	V- 51—Adjoining V-50 on the West	160 acres.
(5)	V-52—Fronting on Harbor Bay	91 acres.
	Total No. of Acres	622 acres.

The country is rough, rocky and mountainous, elevated in places 600 to 700 feet above the Lake. Thousands have been to a great extent [illegible] of wood [illegible] but in the vicinity are to be found patches of good or ordinary timber.

This patch of Huronian slates is surrounded on the land side by Granite granite which sent arms or dykes into the slates for more than a mile from the general line of contact. I look upon this as one of the geological conditions of this locality most favorable for metalliferous lodes.

It is proposed to commence the works by hoisting the ore for crushing and concentrating the ore at the same time put a few miners to drive in on the vein from the foot of the ascent which will give 70 feet over head. Uninformed parties might think the building of the mill premature; therefore the following reasons will explain. —

(1) If the contained ores copper and or mining would not be likely to throw much additional light on the matter yet might cripple the concern so that the Mill could not be got into operation without an additional supply of working capital.

(2) Without milling the ore would be valueless as the freight on the associated mineral would eat up the profits.

(3) The general showing of the lode and developments already show that there must be ore enough there to be worked out to justify the erecting of the Mill.

(4) There is only $10,000 to a call upon and we want to assert sure of getting the mine advanced so as to be begin making returns

There is a small sheet of water running partly through the property the outlet of which at convenient to the mine and presents a fall of 30 feet in 250. By building a small dam across a narrow gorge the little lake can be raised many feet and it will answer admirably as a great advantage in having machinery and washing ore. A reasonably good wagon-road and been graded from the Copper Mines to the harbor length 2 1-2 miles and a winter sleigh road has been made in the same, length 1 1-4 miles. The works on the two holes in a direct line, are separated by 1 3-4 miles of a rough mountainous country and by the present roads which follow the natural valleys to the harbor and jog each other back and forth across the shore the distance between the two places three miles.

5) MINERAL FEATURES. The part of the Coast on which this geological section is occupied by Huronian Strata — metal bearing rocks of the Bruce Mine District and, according to Professor H, Bell of the Geological Survey of Dr this Co mainly not many other mining localities and I might say that they are the precious metal bearing Strata of the North Shore of Lake Superior as all the promising gold discoveries in the district as well as some lead were made in the rocks and near the line discoveries are the Thunder Bay Silver Mines through most of them a surface cover is horizontal Strata the Huronian underlie at a great depth and are believe the source of the precious ore. On the occasions in question the Strata consist of fine micaceous, chlorite talcose siliceous and cherty slates with sedimentary massive diorite—all of which are cut by numerous trap dykes of Silurian Age and in the vicinity of the Copper Lode, by numerous veins or dykes of a coarse grained hornblende rock of Huronian Age. The general strike of the formation is N E and S W with a dip nearly vertical

The Copper lode at first sight appears to conform in its Stratification but upon a closer inspection it shows a deviation in strike of many degrees and its dip is nearly perpendicular A considerable portion of the vein is brecciated, pieces of intrusive being inclosed in a matrix of copper ore of which minerals the vein is principally composed—quartz and magnetic being also present a small quantity, with the exception of one place where it presents two parallel bands of ore four or five feet apart. As shown along the outcrop a width of one to three feet with stringers of quartz bearing copper ore to either side. The rich outturn arises from a few inches to two feet in thickness with a general and accompanied by a foot or more of a lower grade ore. The vein shown rich along the length of exposure of 200 feet, and shown equally persistent in carrying down ards the 438 ft. mark sen to the Paris Exposition as the samples are taken out from the deepest point reached or the feet from surface. We have at my hon for the ode a ll carry rich a surface ore hen rich it may prove in sinking but we know but from ot a large quantity of ore in sight to of worked and besides the indications are favorable for and was d seem to indicate the existence of ore at some place below there being a belt of rock some 40 feet wide which the outcrop showing numerous stringers of quartz with copper ore while in all probability will join at a lower depth and make heavy bodies of ore again a probable the the main vein makes at her cross the intersection of dykes as it are covered by alluvial deposits on each side of the outcrop. The dykes which cross some 400 feet to the East being very large, altering the direction for some distance on either side both in color and texture and forming a deep valley through the mountain ranges where it passes Veins usually under similar circumstances make heavy ore against such dykes as cross-courses. For example see Works on the veins of Cornwall, or take the Wellington Mines, Lake Huron the heavy deposits of ore were near the crossing of an immense dyke The Wellington and the Pic mine ar ry the same kind of copper ore but what of the former carries in gold and silver like the of the latter besides to ore is difficult to work as the gangue is composed

of quartz of the hardest kind while the Fe ore is principally associated with soft talcose rock. The ore, as will be seen by the following assays and returns from Swansea, is comparatively a very rich ore of copper. The test of 4½ tons in the rude state giving 10¼ per cent. of the metal, many samples giving 25¾ of the metal and a shipment of four one-half tons in the rude state without concentration yielding 19% per cent. Besides that it shows a fair yield of the precious metals, ranging from $3.00 to $14.00. As the hanging rocks are the true gold bearing formation of the country it would not be unreasonable for us to look for the true gold in sinking more especially as a vein (Heron Bay) in the same formation not 25 miles distant showed such a result, the free gold not being visible at surface. The Heron Bay promises to be a valuable mine, but at present it is not working owing to some trouble between the owners. Without reference to indications pointed out our calculations are based entirely upon the present showing of the vein in regard to the quantity of ore and upon the results obtained from the test of the 4½ tons in regard to the yield or value of same.

"Account Sales of Copper Ore ex Cornwall" received at Swansea from New York via Bristol and sold for Account and risk of Messrs. The Little Pic Mining Co.

No.	Purchasers	Date of Sale	Gross Weight 21CC/Gross	Moisture Per lb.	Drainage Lb. & Cwt.	Std. 21C
16	London Copper Co.	Apr 3rd.	4 [illegible]	6 dr.	3¼ per 2	d
Weight C grs.	Produce		Price			Amount
6	19½%		s d 6.8			27 11.5 6.8
	2) Costs at 4-0					27.18.2
	T C grs.		CHARGES		£	
FREIGHT	5 3 0 @ 40/—	£10.6.3	6% primage 1872—		£10.14.9	£16.19.3
Charges at New York	£5 14-1	Haulage to yard £211	Harbor Tolls at 4½ %—£1711—		£8 4 11	
91 days interest on above at 5% per annum						£ 4 0
Assaying @ $15;						15 0
Landing, Weight [illegible]						1 4.7
Wharfage Roof						7 8
Sale, Commission and Guarantee £28 18.1 @ 1½%						£13 16.8
Net proceeds due June 6th, 1877						£10 01 7

SWANSEA, MAY 3rd. 1877

RICHARDSON & COMPANY

Assays made by Professor E. J. Chapman for Copper Gold and Silver

"Metallic Copper"—	Gold	Silver
First Trial 25.40 per cent	7 dwt	1 oz 7 dw 12 grs.
Second Trial 25.14 per cent		

Average Amount 25.27%

The value of 25.27% ore per ton, at the low price of 17c per lb would be	$85.80
Value of Gold 7 dwt.	1.21
Value of Silver 1 oz. 7 dwt. 12 grs	1.53
Amount in this box	$93.59

Test for precious metals only by Chas. Kriemann, Assaying & Mining Engineer for the Duncan Mine —

First Trial—Gold 1.1184 oz.	$23.98
Silver 7.700 oz.	10.08
Total per ton	$34.06
Second Trial—Gold 6.725 oz.	$14.88
Silver 8.25 oz.	7.83
Total per ton	$22.71

Repeated tests with the blow-pipe show that the precious metals are always present in the ore in more or less quantities at Swanson. The precious metals were not considered nor accounted for

An approximate of the working capacity of the Copper Lode—Two men in four weeks mined the five tons sent to Swanson besides many tons of a lower grade ore left on the bank. Now, after carefully considering the matter in all its bearings I have come to the conclusion that with the mine in regular operation with crusher and concentrating Mills and the mine opened out for stoping 30 tons of ore could be worked daily yielding at least 5 tons at 20% concentration ore at a cost of running expenses $150.00. Transportation to Swanson Commission and all would be less than $80.00 per ton. Giving a result per day as follows —5 tons of 20% concentrated ore at 17c per lb—$350

5 tons of 20% concentrated ore at 17c per lb	$350.00
Running Expenses	$150.00
Cost of Transportation of five tons	100.00
	$250.00
Leaving balance clear profit	$100.00

We propose to commence the works by building the Mills for crushing and concentrating the ore at the same time put a few miners in open cut the vein. As some may think such a course premature the following reasons will explain matters

1st. The ore cannot be sent to the market profitably until after it is con[illegible]

2nd By any other course our capital would be too small to make as sure of carrying [illegible] as we do a working capital is being raised.

3rd. Owing to the general depression [illegible] money matters it would be difficult to raise a large working capital

4th The amount of mining done though small, and the large amount of the ore tested along with the general showing and characteristics of the lode show that there is ore enough to be worked out to justify the erection of mills at once.

5th. A few thousand dollars expended in mining would not be likely to throw much additional light on the matter yet it might cripple us so that we would be unable to get the mill in operation without raising more capital.

The [illegible] mill [illegible] partly through the ore[illegible] which is convenient to the mine and proposes a fall over 30 feet in 3½. By building a small dam across a narrow gorge the little lake can be raised six feet and it will answer admirably as a reservoir for a water power its area being about 30 acres. I can easily be secured from the timber limit. By using water power instead of steam a very considerable saving in wood engineering etc. will be accomplished in working the ore.

APPROXIMATE ESTIMATES REQUIRED TO PLACE THE MINE IN RUNNING ORDER.

Dam and Race —

Dam and Work upon Race	$300.00
Cut Lumber for Water Conductor	150.00
Iron Bolts, etc. for Water Conductor	100.00
Sundries	250.00
	$1,000.00

Crushing & Concentrating Mills

Timber to Building, 1500 feet	$ 150.00	
Common Lumber for Building 1000 feet	150.00	
Shingles 25M	100.00	
Nails Windows etc.	300.00	
Water Wheel	400.00	
Work	140.00	
Crusher and Concentrator	1,400.00	
Motors	300.00	
		$4,140.00

Roads, Buildings, etc—

Tramway Mine to Mill	$ 300.00	
Buildings	640.00	
Roads Repairing	240.00	
Scow	100.00	
Horses Wagon Sleigh, etc	700.00	
Land that should be secured for wood and mill site	250.00	
Motors	300.00	
		$3,530.00
Total Amount		$8,750.00

BUILDINGS AND MINING PLANT UPON THE PROPERTY

On the Silver Location in good order are the following buildings and Mining Plant in good condition belonging to the Company's Assets—all of which can be removed to the Copper Mine

Engine and Shaft House, 30 x 25' boarded inside and out, with board roof.

A Dwelling House 12' x 14' of similar construction.

A five horse-power Engine and Boiler with the necessary material ready for hoisting

An Ingersoll Rock Drill complete with manual 300 feet iron tubing and 50 feet rubber tubing 200 lbs of hoisting rope 2 mining buckets (one water and one rock) a blacksmith's forge, anvil and other tools, 300 to 400 pounds of assorted drills 6 half dozen picks, pick axes shovels, one large cooking stove, half dozen mattresses, four pairs of blankets table dishes, cheap watches and many other things useful in carrying on the Mine

The Steamer "Rescue", a Pioneer in Great Lakes Shipping

The following historical sketch of the S[illegible] Rescue, one of the early boats to connect up Collingwood with Port William is from the pen of Capt. James McClymont of the C P R. steamers Assiniboia

The Rescue came into considerable prominence in 1870 when on Sept. 20th of that year she had on board passengers to Collingwood H. R. H. Edward Prince of Wales.

The Rescue was originally a two screw wing hull in Buffalo in 1865 her dimensions being 121.5 feet, 23.8 beam and 10 feet depth her gross tonnage being 356

After buying Capt Dick had a mill put on and fitted the vessel for the Lake Superior trade. As he had received the contract for carrying the mails from Red River Settlement.

According to the records of the American canal office the Rescue was the first registered Canadian steamer to pass through the locks making two round trips in July 1868

The following log of the Rescue to Fort William is told as follows in a letter which appeared in the Toronto Globe, but the author's name is now unknown —

Sir —As you have on all occasions taken a prominent part in advocating the opening up of the Hudson's Bay Territory, and the North shore of Lake Superior I send you a log journal of the first trip of the Steamer Rescue Capt James Dick, from Collingwood to Fort William

On this trip she fairly maintained her previous reputation for [illegible] a heavy gale of wind on the beam for many hours between Michipicoten Island and Fort William, she made her 7½ miles per hour and during the gale, was steady and free from any unpleasant motions We left Collingwood at 11 30 a.m. on the 13th July 1868, Capt Kennedy being in charge of the mails for the Red River settlement We passed Cabot's Head at 8.30 p.m. Cove Island light at 1 p.m. leaving a pattern on the top of the lower visible about 2 m. on a clear night passed between the middle and Western Duck at 4 a.m. at many miles an hr to enter Mississagua Straits in daylight at 11 30 a.m. ran a mile to the wharf at Bruce Mines loaded coaled and wooded Under the chief supervision of Mr Davidson we expected the process of extracting copper ore from the bowels of the earth We found that it contained 8% at the mouth of the pit and 36% after sifting in the form of gravel. Sometime ago the Montreal Mining Company (owning the Bruce Mines) leased half their location to the Wellington Mining Company

There are in consequence within one mile separated by a small island two establishments, forming one considered a town. Arrived at Sault Ste Marie, King wharf (British side) at 7 p.m. landed mails and ran over to the American side for coals At 2 a.m. on the 14th, entered the locks same paying 2 cents per ton locking dues

Mr Simpson of the Hudson's Bay Company very politely sent with us the Captain of the schooner to pilot us through to Pine Point, where we engaged his son-in-law Alex. Clark, as pilot passed Whitefish Point, Lake Superior at 10 a.m. Caribou Island at 4.30 p.m. This island was so called from the circumstance of Capt. Ives Mayo, who accompanied Hayden in his survey having on one occasion killed 60 Caribou on it. At 6 p.m. we were close to Agawa Harbor in end of Michipicoten. The harbor at Michipicoten to described by [illegible] Ivi, who has been fifteen years on the lakes as superb, and is so laid down by Hayfield. The island is about 14 miles by 8 covered with spruce, [illegible] birch, ash

and maple, the other growths on elevated ground. There are several lakes on it, full of speckled trout, the bay is full of salmon trout and white fish. A schooner was loaded here last season in a very short time with fish taken in and about the harbor and the climate is said by old voyageurs to be far more pleasant during the winter than at the Sault and other places further south being of a drier nature. It lies between the Island and the main and is the most sheltered passage with two excellent harbors on each side one at Otters Creek and the other at Michipicoten River are harbor.

The latter place is an important port of the Hudson's Bay Company district from Moose Factory Hudson's Bay 300 miles, this was been passed over in canoes in six days. Michipicoten Island is said to contain great mineral deposits—silver copper and lead. The Quebec Mining Company have a location here. At day break on Thursday we passed Slate Island and shortly after encountered a dense fog and lay to till 1 p.m. It was two o'clock before we saw land. Passed close to Thunder Cape, a perpendicular rock rising from the water's edge 1200 feet. Anchored at Fort William situated at the mouth of the Kaministiquia River at 7 p.m. on Thursday the 15th and landed on the next. Owing to a bar and the shoals at the mouth of the river we anchored about 4 miles from the Fort, again on Friday the 16th. Some of the party went up the river to the Jesuit Mission, about three miles where they were kindly received by the Priest.

Capt James Dick, and Mr McMurrich went fishing to Current River about five miles in the north, where the speckled trout proved the largest and strong for their light rods and tackle snapping the nags of the hooks and lines so fast as they were thrown in and they had to give it up for want of material. One of the trout caught was the largest specimen trout I have seen for many years.

There are trout in this stream and in all rapid streams between the Sault and Fort William from 4 lbs. to 8 lbs. and a larger weed are required, at Nipigon River they can be caught from 8 lbs to 12 lbs. Fancy such a sport, to delight of Isaac Walton speckled trout to be had for the trouble of throwing a fly within 24 days of Toronto, weighing from two to twelve pounds. In this are to be found beautiful specimens of Amethyst and other precious stones. The gardens of Fort William and the Jesuit Mission are an harvest as there on the north part of the county of Essex. The Hudson's Bay Company have a large farm, 50 acres besides horses and sheep and up the river there are other farms they raise oats barley and all other kinds of vegetables, and I see no reason why they cannot raise wheat. Mrs. McIntyre, the wife of the agent, was very polite and kind, and invited us all up to the fort—gave us supplies of milk and vegetables.

By this time a deal trade is carried on to Red River. Sir George Simpson returned from Red River just before we arrived with two canoes (8 men in each) and left again for the Sault. This bay Much Thunder being Hudson Bay and the whole bay and neighborhood, abound in splendid and great—it one frequent by 30 a barrel—60 as a greater rule none should be 6½ to 7½ rice mesh. Our pilot, two years ago a 6 ton vessel with two masts filled 175 barrels. He was furnished by merchants in the Sault with barrels and salt and $4.00 when returned full—the rate this year being about $2.00. Thirty barrels at which 6th were taken at one haul at a spot near Fort William. We left Fort William at 2 p.m. for Grand Portage, 40 or 50 Mile's Mound of Greenstone, 1000 feet perpendicular height. La Pate an Ete (Island 800 feet perpendicular this island is said to abound in lead. Hardly a stone can be picked up on the shore without lead in it. On all these islands we can a stones can be picked up of for breeches and rings.

The channel being very intricate and the pilot not quite posted up, we lay to till day light, and entered Grand Portage Bay at 8 a.m. Capt Kennedy landed here with the mails, purchased a canoe and was ready to start before we left. A customs of a town has already sprung up here as the United States side. After giving Capt. Kennedy a hearty shake of the hand we

round we started homeward at 7.15 a.m. and passed Copper Harbor at 9 p.m. Manitou Light 5.50 p.m. Whitefish point 6.40 a.m. and on the 16th July entered Sault Ste. Marie at 10.15 a.m. Coaled at the American side and wooded at Pim's wharf British side. Landed the mail and started at 2.35 p.m. came to the wharf at the Canoe Mines at 7 p.m. wooded and off at 7.40 p.m., passing through the Mississaga Straits and the channel between the middle and West Duck. On the 18th passed Cove Island light at 1 a.m.—Cabot's Head at 10 a.m. and came to the wharf at Collingwood at 6 p.m. this making the trip, including delays and stoppages round Lake Superior in seven days and six hours distance run taken from Reynold's chart between 1150 and 1200 geographic miles. The average speed running thus being a little over 10 miles per hour. The scenery throughout, and especially that of Lake Superior is magnificent, and now that the means of communication are afforded to this great and unknown region, in a safe and commodious boat under the care of a well-known, and experienced captain it must become a favorite resort for the tourist in search of health, and picturesque scenery.

AN INTERVIEW WITH CAPTAIN DICK OF THE S. B. RESCUE.

(Copied originally from the Kingston Whig, into the Thunder Bay Sentinel of June 12 1858.)

Captain Dick, inspector of Hulls was the first who navigated a steamer up to Fort William, in Thunder Bay This was in 1858. The boat was an interesting one, and the Whig reporter planning the genial captain at the British American Hotel had quite a long themed interview with him about it. He said that along in 1858 a company of Toronto people was formed and a contract given to them to carry mail from Collingwood to Fort Garry now Winnipeg. Captain Dick and his brother went to Buffalo and purchased the S. Owen, Rescue, a handsome craft. The boat was originally built for service on the Florida coast, but the company who had her in hand failed, and the Dicks secured her for one-third her value. The captain found her to be the safest steamer he had ever commanded. The wildest gales did not disturb her.

There was great opposition to the proposed opening up of the northwest, by the Hudson Bay Company and through their efforts the mail contract was abrogated and the Toronto gentlemen suffered great loss.

Mr. Dawson, now member for Algoma, was one part of the Toronto company's case. He laid out the route for taking the mails through from Fort William. Bridle paths were cut through to Dog Lake thence to Red River and down as far as the boundary line. Boats were then dispatched down the Winnipeg river and finally the bags were carried across the plains to Fort Garry by Indians. The first trip of the voyageurs was a humorous one, and the mails went forward at the point of the revolver. The Indians objected to the advance of civilization.

My first trip was to Fort William on the Rescue, said the captain I had never been up the lakes before, but by chart I succeeded in getting to my destination without touching rock or shore. It was a bright moonlight night when I anchored off Fort William and a few miles afterwards the boat was surrounded by a hundred canoes. They were filled with Indians, who had silently swept over to see the monster but they would not come near the vessel. Presently the H. B. Co.'s factor approached in a large canoe rowed by twenty Indians, who sang their boating songs. The night was pleasantly spent in conversation with the factor who pointed out to me the great territory which the H. B. Company controlled. The company afterwards charged exorbitantly for everything that we wanted. They were opposed to our going into the country and finally succeeded in getting our contract cancelled.

We had much trouble in keeping our canoe stations intact. Once, that at Dog Lake was torn down and the boats splintered. I later bought one of our own boats at Fort William but as soon as I discovered our brand beneath the seat I refused to pay for it. We used coal on our trips up, and wood going down. We bought land where Port Arthur is now and we think we still have a claim there. The government sold it without our leave but the money we paid for it lies in the Crown Lands Office and we intend to have a refund or some satisfaction soon. Many a time I have taken on wood at Fort Arthur. When I first went up the lakes there were only three white men living on the route.

"What did you get," inquired the reporter, "for carrying the mails?"

"We got twelve hundred dollars a trip."

"Did you carry much mail?"

The first mail I took up consisted of two letters, and three papers. Previously the mail for the Hudson Bay factors, was sent in from the Hudson Bay

STEAMER "RESCUE"

Built at Buffalo, N. Y. 1865 (official No. 23822) Length between perpendiculars 138 ft. 6 in. Beam 22 ft. 3 in. Depth 10 ft. 1 in. 246 tons. 50 gross.

This was the first registered Canadian steamer to pass through the Old State Lock at Sault Ste Marie, Mich. in July 1868 trading from Collingwood to Fort William and to Grand Portage carrying passengers, mail and freight. Capt. Dick being the commander. When the Prince of Wales King Edward VII. visited Collingwood Sept. 11th 1860, this steamer took the Royal party for a trip around the harbor.

Narrative of the Canadian Red River Exploring Expedition of 1857

On account of its special interest, Mr. Alex. McNaughton copied this chapter from a rare book belonging to the Government Library at Ottawa, and presented the copy to the Historical Society.

By Henry Youle Hind M.A. F.R.G.S.
Professor in Chemistry and Geology in the University of Trinity College Toronto
In charge of the Assiniboine and Saskatchewan Exploration

CHAPTER II

The Kaministiquia Route — Fort William — Lake Superior to the Height of Land

THUNDER BAY which receives the waters of the Kaministiquia (spelt Kaministikwoya by Sir John Richardson), the largest river that runs far inland, forms a portion of the north-west angle of Lake Superior. It is the most southerly of those large and deep landlocked bays, which characterize that part of the coast, and it is situated between the parallels 48° 15' north latitude and a long itude 88° and 89° 25' west of Greenwich. The greatest length of a north-easterly direction is 30 miles and its breadth from Thunder Cape to the mouth of the Kaministiquia upon which Fort William is situated, about 12 miles.

The main entrance to the bay is between the imposing headlands of Thunder Cape, 1250 feet above the lake level, and Pie Island, a bold and picturesque mass, with an altitude of 850 feet. The depth in channel in the broad entrance exceeds 120 feet, and a measure of 98 to 120 feet is maintained in many parts of the bay.

Seven miles to eastward of Thunder Cape the lake is 60 feet deep, with a muddy bottom.

Immediately opposite, and west of the three mouths of the Kaministiquia, the Welcome Islands are distant about two miles and inside of these islands from 40 to 60 feet of water is shown on Bayfield's chart. Within half a mile of the river's mouth the water shoals rapidly and the bar has a variable depth of 5½ to 7½ feet of water upon it, but within 1000 yards to the north or main channel, 12 to 14 feet of water is maintained. Land is forming fast near the mouths of the river and large areas in advance of the present delta sustain a thick growth of rushes.

At a distance of a mile and a half from the exit of the northern or main channel, Fort William is situated, upon the left or north bank. Opposite to it is a large island formed by the middle channels of the Kaministiquia which branches off from the main stream about one and a half miles from the bay. In the time of the North West Company this district was surrounded by a high picketed wall which contained many of the houses for the men and other purposes, and the present portion is now covered with wood and brush. A large area south of the fort still remains uncovered with wood, and forms the site of an Ojibway village besides serving as an excellent grazing ground for a herd of cows belonging to the Hudson's Bay Company which swim across the river every morning, a distance of 600 feet, and return in the early part of the afternoon to the farm yard in the vicinity of the fort.

The banks of the river here are low and flat not exceeding the fort in altitude. In the rear of the fort, there is a track of small but dense growth previously. The soil is a light sandy loam reposing on yellowish clay.

Two miles above the fort, and in a direction nearly south two miles the third or southern outlet separates from the main channel. The banks of the river continue to rise above the level of the waters until they attain in the Mission of the Im-

Immaculate Conception at an altitude of 18 on 21 feet. Near the Mission the Indian Reserve of about 25 square miles begins to embrace the best and largest area of arable land in the valley of the Kaministiquia, and much of it being situated on the flanks of McKay's mountain range some particulars possess many advantages which do not belong to the available lands near the shores of Thunder Bay.

The general course of the river above the Mission to a distance of nine miles is nearly due southwest by very tortuous windings. Five miles from Fort William it approaches the base of the elevated but broken table lands to which McKay's Mountain forms an imposing and abrupt termination. McKay's Mountain has an elevation of 1200 feet above the lake, and in the north-eastern boundary is an irregular but extended trap range. While south-eastern bank follows the trend of the coast so far as Pigeon River.

It is worthy to remark, that the banks of Mackay's Mountain support a heavy growth of hardwood timber (maple etc.) and through various reports I was informed that this heavily timbered land stretches for 10 or 12 miles out, on the sides and borders of the trap range. The rock formations which comprise the country between the Kaministiquia and Pigeon Rivers indicate the presence of a fertile soil on the flank of the irregular table land the trap rock which the site of the mission principally rises upon disintegrates into a soil of superior character. At the Mission, a light reddish loam constitutes the soil, having a depth of six feet, and resting upon a bluish gray clay which extends to the water's edge.

The Mission of the Immaculate Conception is under the charge of the Rev. Jean Pierre Choné, who has resided on the banks of the Kaministiquia for nine years. From that gentleman who kindly afforded me much information, respecting this valley I obtained numerous facts of interest in relation to its adaptation for settlement. At the Mission there are already congregated from thirty to thirty-five houses, substantially built of wood. In their general arrangement and construction they are far superior to the log houses in Canadian villages in the interior. Many of them have gardens attached to them a few of which were in a good state of cultivation, the small fields fenced with pole and rail fence in the rear of the main dwelling. The river here is from 60 to 70 yards wide, its waters are very turbid with a current just exceeding two miles an hour.

M. Choné's room into which we were ushered gave us a clue to the prosperity observable near, and appearances in industry which distinguished the Mission. A young tame partridge was hopping about the floor when we entered. A number of books occupied a small table in one corner, the other was taken up by a burning lathe, and various articles manufactured by the cure were lying about the room. A low bed covered with a buffalo robe filled another corner and while we were contrasting an old chief dressed in scarlet cloth, quietly entered and placed himself on a chair by the side of a small carpenter's bench which often the remaining angle.

Among many interesting facts with which we were furnished by the kindness of M. Choné we learned various part with respect to the conditions of the Indians and the relation to the government of Canada which on inspection of the treaty confirmed.

In 1850 a treaty was concluded by the Hon. W. B. Robinson on behalf of Her Majesty and the Government of the Province with the Chiefs of the Ojibway Indians inhabiting the northern shore of Lake Superior from Batchewanaung Bay to Pigeon River and claiming the height of land between Canada and the territories in the occupation of the Hudson's Bay Company. For the sum of £2000 currency and an annual payment of £500 to be paid in Fort William and Michipicoten the Indians surrendered all their right and title to the above territory with the exception of the following reserves made over to them for the purposes of residence and cultivation allowance being given under certain reasonable restrictions that they shall still have over the territory and fish in the waters as heretofore. The

number of Indians included in this treaty was 1,342. The reservations made for their benefit were as follows:

First. For Joseph Peau de Chat and his tribe, the reserve to commence about two miles from Fort William on the right bank of the Kitchi-Mimiguisibi (Nelson River) thence westerly the same parallel to the shores of the Lake, thence northerly by the same course as the right bank of the said river so as not to interfere with any acquired rights of the Honorable Hudson's Bay Company.

Second. Four miles square at Gros Cap for Pratt and his tribe; and

Third. Four miles square on Gull River near Lake Superior, on both sides of the river, for the chief Mishkemenegon.

The Iroquois being desirous of going to Mass at the Mission on Sunday, August 2nd, several of the party accompanied them, and witnessed the rather rare spectacle of a numerous and most attentive Indian congregation engaged in Christian worship. The chapel is a very [illegible] and well-constructed building of wood with a round-circular ceiling painted light blue. The seats were graded to the height of about four feet and altogether the interior arrangements and decorations exceeded our anticipations, and everywhere showed the industrious hand of intelligent direction of the Rev. M. Cruise. The Indians forming the regular congregation were arranged in the most orderly manner, the left side of the chapel being appropriated to the men and boys, the right to the women and girls. The boys and girls were placed in front of their seniors. The men were provided with forms, the women sat upon the floor. The most decorum prevailed throughout the service, and the chanting of both men and women was excellent, that of the former being remarkably low and sweet. Few but the male portion of the congregation took their eyes from the priest or their books during the service. The squaws drew their shawls or blankets over the head and showed the utmost gravity. The Cure delivered a long sermon, in the Ojibway language, with much energy, and seemingly with the greatest fluency. After the solitary service of the day was over, being before requested by one of our party, he delivered an admirable sermon in French. His style, language and manner were of a very superior order, and the drift of his words seemed to go far in shadowing forth the philanthropic principles which sustained him in his solitary work of love so remote from society, comfort and civilization.

In the afternoon I visited the mouth of the Current River, six miles from Fort William. The river reaches the Lake by a succession of sloping falls over an irregular rock, which at the aggregate exceed forty feet in height within half a mile from the lake. The summer drive is exceptional, occupying in abundance the creeks and margins of the river and the banks of the river.

I walked during the day the portion of the [illegible] which is about 14 acres. The shrubs were small, but the potatoes looked well, being in the time to flower, and McIntyre thinks that varieties may be found which will ripen well near the fort. Tomatoes do not ripen here, turnips and cabbages are very liable to be destroyed by the cut-worm, or grub, the currant bushes procured from the forest front look admirably, and produce a very large berry. The red currant was just beginning to ripen. This part of the country appears to abound in currants, raspberries, strawberries and cranberries, they were seen growing in the woods in every direction where direct light penetrated. A patch of oats in the garden looked most remarkable, there specimens of stalk and leaf, and the ears were beginning to show themselves. The oat of the garden was brought from the foot of the Kaministiquia Falls in the time of the North West Company's glory.

The average per diem for the Kaministiquia freights is from the third to the fifteenth of November, and the commencement from the beginning of March, and twenty-third April. The year 1851 proved an exception in many respects, the ice did not [illegible] set in the river until the intimate of May, and on the 2nd of August, the day of my visit, the waters of the river were

higher than they had ever been known before at that season of the year

Indian corn will not succeed in the settlement, early and late frost cutting it off. Frost occurs here under the influence of the cold expanse of Lake Superior until the end of June and begins again towards the end of August. A few miles further up the river west of McKay's Mountain, the late and early are of rare occurrence, and it was stated that Indian corn would ripen on the banks of McKay's Mountain

All kinds of small grain succeeds well at the Mission, and the reason why they have not been more largely cultivated is owing to the want of a mill for the purpose of converting them into flour or meal. Near the Mission, at Fort William for instance oats do not always ripen, the cold air from the lake, whose surface, thirty and fifty miles from land showed a temperature of 40° F. on the close of the hottest month of the year is sufficient to prevent many kinds of vegetables from maturing, except in favored localities, but succeed admirably four or five miles up the river

Fragments of limestone has been procured in the neighborhood but the locality could not be pointed out by any of the inhabitants. The ruins of a fine kiln used by the North West Company have been discovered, and it is very probable that the limestone was obtained from crystalline layers, the occurrence of which has been established over wide areas in Thunder Bay by Sir William Logan, and are noticed by him as being of a "reddish white color and very compact seams of which would yield good material for burning." These beds of impure limestone are mentioned by Mr Murray (geological survey of Canada for 1845-7) as occurring in the lower portions of the formation occupying the valley

It is worthy of notice that numerous records of far more extensive settlements than now exist, showing a much higher degree of civilization and improvement are found at or near the various posts along this route and at Hunter's or Fort William.

Most of these remains of former industry and art, date from the time when the North West Company occupied the country and there is reason to believe that much valuable knowledge respecting the resources of particular localities has been forgotten or is hidden in the memories of those who may not have the opportunity to make it known.

Mr Keating mentions the ruins of the old Fort de Maurepas, erected by Lord Selkirk. He was also shown the remains of a winter road opened by that enterprising gentleman, from the Kaministiquia to the Grand Portage on the Pigeon River, about thirty-six miles distant. The remains of a road to White Fish Lake is also still to be seen and indeed it forms a winter route for half-breeds and Indians at the present day between the mouth of the Pigeon River and the valley of the Kaministiquia. The Canadian government have recently laid out the valley of the Kaministiquia below the Kakabeka Falls into two townships, named respectively Paipoonge and Neebing

On the Third of August we prepared for our immediate departure and were all ready with the exception of the Iroquois Indians, by 10 a.m. The delay with them arose from an indisposition to negotiate and be associated in a different manner with the Ojibways we were so glad to hire by name, however an arrangement was made it being determined that one brigade of three canoes should proceed at once, the other follow on the morrow. Just before starting a large body of heathen Indians, from the camp on the opposite side of the river came over in a number of small canoes and commenced a dance outside of the pickets of the fort. They were painted and feathered in various ways and furnished an admirable subject for our artists. Having danced on the outside of the fort for some minutes they entered and arranged themselves in a semi-circle in the quadrangle. The medicine-man and his assistant, grandly painted and decked with eagles feathers and on the ground beating a drum, and near to them squatted some half dozen squaws with a few children. About sixty men and boys, headed by the chief painted and feathered similar to the medicine man danced

or jumped around the ring. Our party being collected in front of the chief he made a short speech which was interpreted by a half-breed attached to the expedition to the following effect. They were happy to see us as the sight they were hungry and required food and wanted to our generosity and the plenty by which we were surrounded. The pipe of peace was then lit and handed in turns for each to take a whiff. The gesture of a hand across the mouth and cheek was admirably drawn to black on the faces of the chief and medicine-man. The Kinkit wheeze, the insignia consisted of eagles' feathers around it a strip of red cloth about four feet long and attached to a cedar pole. The whole scene was highly ridiculous, and many of the performers were wretched looking creatures, being dreadfully affected with scrofula. Some of the men, however, possessed splendid looking figures, but the progress of any disease will soon close the history of these wretched Indians of the Kamanistiquia.

Our first brigade consisting of two large five fathom and one middle size canoe, containing twenty-six men in all started from Fort William at 4 p.m., and arrived opposite McKay's Mountain at about half-past six. Half a mile above the mission we noticed a very neat house in a clearing of about ten acres in extent the first effort of civilization to be seen with the exception of an occasional post of the Hudson's Bay Company to many hundred miles. The first camp was pitched about three quarters of a mile beyond McKay's Mountain.

Opposite this magnificent exposure of trap, the clay banks of the river are about 14 feet high, and continue to rise as one ascends on the other hand they attain an elevation of nearly 60 feet often however retiring from the present bed of the river and giving place to an alluvial terrace, some 4 or 10 feet in altitude, and studded with the richest profusion of grasses and twining flowering plants. The current begins a the rapid about nine miles above Fort William soon after passing Point de Meuron, the site of the fort established by Lord Selkirk before referred to and continues so, to the ascending course of the stream to the foot of the first descent portage, at the Decharges des Paresseux, where an exposure of shale creates the rapids which occasion the portage. The fall here is five feet 1 inch, in a space of 934 feet. The distance of this portage from the lake by the windings of the river is about 2¾ miles, and the total rise probably reaches 25 feet.

The canoe continues rapid to the foot of the Grand Falls and high rock exposures commence on the precipitous banks three miles below them. These gradually assume the form of bluffs capped with drift. Increasing in altitude until they attain at the foot of the Grand Falls, the height of about 140 feet on the left bank, while on the opposite side of the river the mountain portage path winds round the steep hill side of a bold projecting escarpment of rock to altitude, and nearly half a mile from the falls.

At our camp seven miles below the mound or Kakabeka Fall (shaft rock) as they are termed, the level of the river was estimated to be 60 feet above Lake Superior and the foot of the falls 78 feet higher. The Grand Falls themselves are found by leveling to have an altitude of 119.46 feet and traversed a portage of 62 chains or three quarters of a mile. They are distant from the mouth of the river by the windings about 30 miles, and in an air line 17 miles.

As the mercury at these falls has attracted the attention of several observers the different results obtained may also be without interest—

Altitude ascertained by sealing [Mr Mowat, August, 1857]	110.00
Capt. (now Col.) Lefroy barometrical measurement	115.00
Mr Murray of the Canadian Geological Survey	110.00
Major Delafield	125.00
Sir John Richardson, Barometrical Measurement,	127.00
Lieuts. Hoott and Bonny	130.00

Assuming the height of Kakabeka to be 110 feet, the summit will be 175 feet above Lake Superior. This result includes the rapids at the top of the falls. The angle were taken along the portage path, and if the rapids be deducted, the true height of Kakabeka probably does not exceed 100 feet.

The scenery of the Grand Falls is extremely beautiful. The river precipitates its yellowish brown water over a sharp ledge into a narrow and profound gorge. The plateau above the portage cliff such a party on a level with the summit on the far side is covered with a profusion of blueberries, strawberries, raspberries, pigeon cherry and numerous flowering plants among which the bluebell was most conspicuous. On the left side of the falls a loose talus is covered with a bright and grasses which grow luxuriantly under the spray. Beautiful vari-brown of many textures colours are continually projected on the talus when the position of the sun and the clearness of the sky are favorable. Numerous small springs trickle down a perpendicular cliff of about 40 feet in all blends on the base of the talus, whose coolness and clearness, compared with the warm coloured waters of the river make them a delicious beverage, the difference between the temperature of the springs and river being about 20. The right side of the falls is perpendicular for a height of more than 100 feet and exposes the stratification with perfect fidelity. The peculiar rounded forms into which the rock divides itself, noticed by Mr Murray, were well marked.

The alluvial valley of the river from about three miles below the mountain portage in Fort William varies in breadth from a few hundred yards to one mile. The breadth occupied by land of a quality which might fit it for agriculture purposes extends to about the summit of the flank of a low table land which marks the true limit of the river valley and the average breadth of this may be doubled that of the strictly alluvial portion.

The low table land is thinly wooded with small pine, and the soil is poor and dry. The alluvial valley contains elm, aspen, balsam, poplar and, butternut, and a very luxuriant profusion of grasses, vetches, and herbaceous plants among which the wild hop, honeysuckle and convolvulus, are the most conspicuous. The rear portion of the valley with an admixture of the trees just named, contains birch, balsam-spruce, white and black spruce, and some heavy cedars. The undergrowth embraces hazelnut, cherries of two varieties, etc.

Occasionally the flanks of the low table land approach the river and obstruct the valley and give an unfavourable aspect to the country. This occurs near the Mackenzie and Parkes-ville, and at most of the canyon rapids. The area available for agricultural purposes below the Grand Falls, probably exceeds twenty thousand acres, but in the flanks of McKay's Mountain be excluded the estimate, a large addition may with propriety be assumed.

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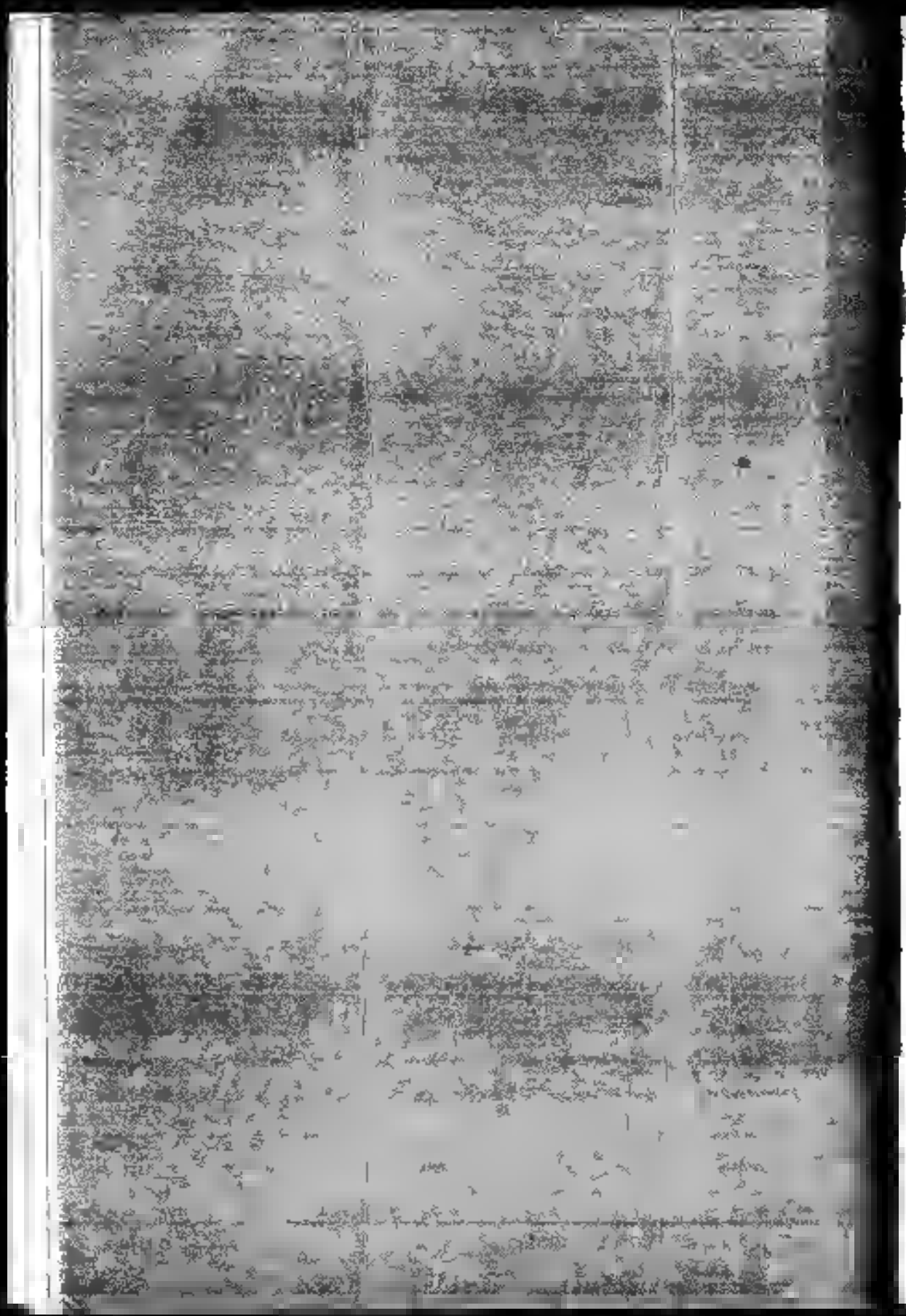
The Thunder Bay Historical Society

Fourteenth Annual Report

PAPERS OF 1923



The Thunder Bay Historical Society

Fourteenth Annual Report

Papers of 1923

Thunder Bay Historical Society

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Mr. Alex. McNaughton

AUDITORS

Mrs. C. W. Jarvis and Miss Pamphylon.

Secretary-Treasurer's Report

MISS M. J. L. BLACK

To the President and Members of the Thunder Bay Historical Society

Sir and Fellow Members

I beg to report that during the year we have held four regular meetings all at the home of the President — On Oct. 27 the speaker was Mr McKellar whose paper was on The Little Pic Silver Mine This paper was continued on Dec 28th On July 9th 1923, the speaker was Capt. McCannel his subject being Shipping on the Great Lakes (By the speaker's request this paper will not be published until next year) On September 29 a paper was presided by Mr Alex. McNaughton, in the form of a chapter from the work of Professor H R. Hind, on "Exploration in the Kaministiquia Valley in 1857 Captain McCannel also sent us a reading covering the Log of the S S Rescue on its first trip to to Lake Superior in 1859

We have a paid up membership of 13

It is with great regret that we note the loss of one of our most faithful and popular members in the person of Mrs. F C Perry She was a chartered member and always showed the greatest interest in our work She will long be missed by us all.

The Society was fortunate in receiving from Capt McCannel a set of photographs of four of the earliest boats plying to Thunder Bay the Algoma, the Ploughboy the Waubano and the Cumberland We have also received in exchange various interesting and valuable reports and annuals.

Respectfully submitted

M J L BLACK
Secretary

THUNDER BAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Financial Statement

Receipts

Oct. 1, 1922—	
Balance in bank	$ 5.00
Government grant	100.00
Membership Fees	11.00
Mr J M Sherk	
Mr Fred Fragsan	
Miss Robin	
Capt McCannell	
Mr and Mrs C W Jarvis	
Mr and Mrs G A Graham	
Mr and Mrs. John King	
Mr and Mrs. Peter McKellar	
Miss Black	
	$116.00

Disbursements

Affiliation fee to Canadian Historical Society	$ 5.00
Printing Annual Report	32.25
Oct. 1 1923 bal. in bank	68 75
	$116.00

The Little Pic Silver Mine

By PETER McKELLAR

REPORT OF THE DEVELOPMENTS TO THE HON. WM. CAYLEY AND ASSOCIATES

Sirs

I have the honour of reporting to you as follows in reference to the developments of the Little Pic Locations

According to Agreement on receipt of the first instalment of $600 00 cheque from you, I procured 12 men and supplies and started on the 12th of June last from Fort William on Tug Watchman (specially chartered for our use) to the Locations which are distant from Fort William about 150 miles—arriving at our destination on the 16th We worked steadily with out intermission until the 21st of August last when work was closed I returned with all hands and 22 barrels of ore as sample of that from No 1 Shaft, in the same Tug with Schooner Mary-Ann in tow sent specially to bring us back

We opened and mined in one Drift and four Shafts besides making some 25 cross-cuts in the overlying drift or earth covering a mile to extend along the vein for the purpose of tracing it as it had been exposed on high places only and at long intervals One Shaft 6 by 13 feet was sunk 2 to 3 feet, one 7 by 2 was sunk 6 feet one 8 by 10 feet was sunk 13 feet and the other or No Shaft on 49 6 by 11 feet, was sunk to the depth of 31 feet, and well timbered with a good windlass in position The Drift was driven 27 feet from the place of beginning getting 8 feet under cover At 10 of the cross-cuts the rock was not reached owing to the depth of earth. At two or three other veins it is from 4 to 6 inches in width but in most places it is over 3 feet wide and in many over 6 feet. The vein is subject to decomposition at surface so that with a few exceptions we were unable in reach the solid though we followed it down in many places 8 to 10 feet in the glacier between the two walls Wherever we blasted into the solid lode we found the argentiferous ore in considerable quantities And at each place in sinking we noticed a decided improvement in the ore both in quality and quantity and in the deepest shaft near the bottom we discovered native Silver in thin leaves and fine particles through the veinstone

About nine tons of ore, was assorted—3 at the Drift and 2 of each of the two deepest Shafts—of course only a portion of what was taken out. Over two tons of that from No 1 Shaft was packed in the Scars and brought away to have it tested One of the barrels contains about 400 pounds of the Argentiferous compact galena ore from the bottom of the 50 feet Shaft An average specimen of which (about 4 pounds) was pulverized and an average sample taken by Mr Chidday (assayer of the Duncan Mine) it yielded silver $13.13 per ton A sample of the galena ore (of which there is a considerable quantity) from the bottom of the same shaft was treated by Mr Chidday and after seperating the gangue by washing it yielded $124.24 per ton, of silver hence that the lead would be worth $40 00 a $60 00 per ton an that the ore after washing would be worth about $240 per ton The galena at surface in this Shaft yielded $22 00 of silver in the ton while as above shewn at 50 feet yielded $124.25 Again the native silver is showing in fine particles at the bottom while at surface none was seen besides the quantity of ore is much greater below therefore, there is every indication that at a greater depth it will be much richer I have made repeated tests, with the blow-pipe of the ore from the different Shafts at various depths and found it always carried the silver in more or less quantities and apparently improving in depth.

All doubts of its giving out by sinking will be dispelled, when it is known that it has been traced for about 4 miles showing the same characteristics and ores throughout and that it cuts the vertical notates (country rock) at an angle of 40° with their strike and also the intrusive dykes of trap and porphyry which in the vicinity are numerous

On the location is a fine waterpower of in the most favorable situation possible for working these mines. It is immediately adjacent to the 40 foot Shaft and could be worked at least 9 months in the year and, I believe the whole 12 months with a small outlay in securing it from the trust.

I have brought to Toronto 2 barrels of samples which, for your satisfaction I propose to have examined by Professor Chapman in order to get his opinion as to whether or not it would be advisable to have two tons of ore now lying at Wicklow smelted, before proceeding any further

They can be treated either at Newark N.J. or Wyandotte but in small parcels like this it costs $100 00 per ton For my part I am perfectly satisfied without going to the expense of testing the 2 tons, that the developments should if possible be carried on this winter the results already obtained to my mind very satisfactory In conclusion I would say that my working at the lode this summer has strengthened me in the belief previously expressed to you that it is a rich silver lode which only requires development to prove remunerative.

I see by an extract in the Engineering and Mining Journal of July 24th, from the Report of the Commissioner of Mining Statistics (United States) that the "Hale and Norcross" one of the famous Mines on the Great Comstock Silver Lode which has attained the enormous depth of 2200 feet and of course requiring very expensive machinery for hoisting, etc had worked during the year 17,469 tons of ore which yielded $295,361 12— a yield of less than $17 00 per ton and in some mines ores yielding much less is worked Now when ores like this can be worked with profit in Nevada where labour [illegible], and supplies of all kinds are so much more expensive than on Lake Superior surely we can work with profit ores of a much lower grade, being directly connected by water with numerous railway centres and large manufacturing Cities of the United States and Canada The present [illegible] developments at Silver Island prove this beyond dispute for I am credibly informed that the cost of mining stamping and separating the ores does not exceed $2.50 per ton, the yield of the ore worked being $15 to $25 per ton The shipping and further reduction of the concentrated ore will amount to a trifle on account of its richness

We have a great advantage over the Silver Islet Company in having a great length of vein as the dry land and a good water power close at hand to drive the machinery

I remain,

Your Obedient Servant

PETER McKELLAR

Toronto, 20th September 1875

The Little Pic Copper Mine

by PETER McKELLAR

This report is drawn up under the following heads. (1) Preliminary Remarks; (2) Site and General Description of the Property; (3) Mineral Features; (4) Result of Assays and Test in the Large Way; (5) Buildings and Mining Plant on the Property; (6) Proposed System of Working the Mine; (7) Approximate Estimates Required to Place the Mine in Running Order; (8) General Description of the Silver Lode

(1) PRELIMINARY REMARKS — The property upon which this report is made is traversed by two distinct metalliferous lodes. The one intersecting location K120 is a copper ore lode carrying gold and silver, the other intersecting locations V-49, V-50 and V-51, carries ores of lead and zinc unusually rich in silver. The property is situated on the North Shore of Lake Superior nearly opposite the Pic Island and about 14 miles east of Fort William. Location V-52 fronts on a bay which forms an excellent natural harbor in Lake Superior line of steamers will call whenever business requires it. I have had very favorable opportunities of gaining information of the mineral characteristics of this as all the works were carried on under my own supervision, and I can conscientiously say that I believe it is seldom that capital is invested in mining on so sure a foundation

(2) SITE AND GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY. The property comprises altogether the following locations

(1)	K 120—2½ miles N W of Harbor Bay	51 acres
(2)	V 49—1½ miles N of Harbor Bay	167 acres
(3)	V 50—Adjoining V-49 on the West	180 acres
(4)	V 51—Adjoining V 50 on the West	163 acres
(5)	V 52—Fronting on Harbor Bay	81 acres
	Total No of Acres	622 acres

The country is rough rocky and mountainous elevated in places 500 to 600 feet above the Lake. These locations have been to a great extent stripped of wood by fires but in the vicinity are to be found patches of good or ordinary timber

This patch of Huronian slates is surrounded on the land side by Syenitic granite which sent arms or dykes into the slates for more than a mile from the general line of contact. I consider the geological conditions of this locality most favorable for metalliferous lodes

It is proposed to commence the works by building the mills for crushing and concentrating the ore at the same time set a few miners to drive in on the vein from the foot of the ascent which will give 70 feet over head. Uninformed parties might think the building of the mill premature, therefore the following reasons will explain —

(1) A few thousand dollars expended on mining would not be likely to throw much additional light on the matter yet might cripple the concern so that the Mill could not be got into operation without an additional supply of working capital

(2) Without milling, the ore would be valueless as the freight on the associated mineral would eat up the profits

(3) The general showing of the lode and developments already show that there must be ore enough there to be worked out to justify the erecting of the mill

(d) There is only $10,000 to work some and we want to make sure of getting the mine advanced so as to begin making returns

There is a small chain of water passing partly through the location the outlet of which is convenient to the mine and presents a fall of 30 feet in 350. By building a small dam across a narrow gorge the little lake can be raised many feet and it will answer admirably as a great advantage in driving machinery and washing ore. A tolerably good waggon-road has been graded from the Copper Mine to the harbor—length 2 1/2 miles and a winter sleigh road has been made to the silver mine length 1 1/4 miles. The works on the two leads in a direct line are separated by 1 3/4 miles of a rough mountainous country and by the present roads which follow the natural valleys to the harbor and join near where a half mile from the shore the distance between the two is about three miles.

(2) MINERAL FEATURES — The part of the Canal on which this property occurs is occupied by Huronian Strata—metal bearing rocks of the Bruce Mine District and according to Professor R. Bell of the Geological Survey of British Columbia and many other mining localities and I might say that they are the precious metal bearing Strata of the North Shore of Lake Superior as all the promising gold discoveries in the District as well as some Silver were made in the rocks and even the other discoveries of the Thunder Bay Silver Mines though most of them at surface occur in horizontal Strata the Huronian underlie at no great depth and are I believe the source of the precious ore. On the locations in question the Strata consist of fine micaceous chlorite talcose siliceous and diorite slates with interstratified massive diorite—all of which are cut by numerous trap dykes of Silurian Age and in the vicinity of the Copper Lode, by immense masses or dykes of a coarse grained hornblende rock of Huronean Age. The general strike of the formation is N E and S W with a dip nearly vertical.

The Copper lode at first sight appears in reality with the Stratification but upon a closer inspection it shows a deviation in strike of many degrees and its dip is nearly perpendicular. A considerable portion of the vein is brecciated, pieces of talcose being inclosed in a matrix of copper ore of which minerals the vein is principally composed—quartz and magnetic being also present in small quantities with the exception of one place where it presents two parallel bands of ore four or five feet apart it shows along the outcrop a width of one to three feet with stringers of quartz bearing copper ore in either side. The rich mineral varies from a few inches to two feet in thickness with in general, and accompanied by a foot or more of a lower grade ore. The vein shows rich along the length of exposure of 200 feet, and it shows equally persistent in carrying downwards the ore the mass sent to the Paris Exposition as the heaviest ore taken out from the deepest point reached or ten feet from surface. We cannot say how far the lode will carry rich at surface nor how rich it may prove in sinking but we know that there is a large quantity of ore in sight to be worked out besides the indications are favorable for and would seem to indicate the existence of ore of some place below there being a bull of rock some 20 feet wide along the outcrop showing numerous stringers of quartz with copper ore which in all probability will join at a lower depth and make heavy bodies of ore. Again it is probable that the vein will make richer near the intersections of dykes which are covered by alluvial deposits on each side of the outcrop. The dykes which cross some 400 feet to the East being very large, altering the Strata for some distance on either side both in color and texture and forming a deep valley through the mountain ranges where it passes. Veins usually under similar circumstances, make heavy ore against such dykes or cross-courses. For example see Works on the veins of Cornwall or take the Wellington Mines Lake Huron the heavy deposits of ore were near the crossing of an immense dyke. The Wellington and the Pic leads carry the same kind of copper ore, but that of the former carries no gold and silver like that of the latter besides its ore is difficult to work as the gangue is composed

of quartz of the hardest kind while the Pic ore is principally associated with soft talcose state The ore as will be seen by the following assays and returns from Swansea is comparatively a very rich ore of copper The test of 4½ tons in the rude state giving 10¾ per cent. of the metal assay sample giving 20¼ of the metal and a shipment of four one-half tons in the rude state without concentration yielding 10½ per cent Besides that it shows a fair yield of the precious metals, ranging from $8.00 to $24.00. As the including rocks are the true gold bearing formation of the country it would not be unreasonable for us to look for the free gold in sinking more especially as a vein (Heron Bay) in the same formation not 20 miles distant showed such a result the free gold not being visible at surface The Heron Bay promises to be a valuable mine but at present it is not working owing to some trouble between the owners Without reference to indication pointed out our calculations are based entirely upon the present showing of the lode in regard to the quantity of ore and upon the results obtained from the test of the 4½ tons in regard to the yield or value of same

Account Sales of Copper Ore ex 'Cornwall' received at Swansea from New York via Bristol and sold for Account and risk of Messrs The Little Pic Mining Co.

No	Purchasers	Date of Sale	Gross Weight 21C.C.Gross	Moisture Per lb.	Drafting Lb. & Cwt	Net 21C
20	London Copper Co	Apr 3rd	4 3	0 drs	3½ per 2	4
Weight	Produce		Price			Amount
C. grs						
0	10¼%		£. d			27 11 0
			6.6			0 0
						27.11.1
	20 Casks at 4-D					
	T C grs	£	CHARGES	£		
FREIGHT	0 2 0 @ 40/—	£10 10.1	8% primage 1072—	£10.14 2		£14 19 1
Charges at New York	£0 14 1	Haulage to yard 5/11		Harbor Tolls at 4½D—$17.11—	£0 4 11	
91 days interest on above at 5% per annum						£ 4.2
Assaying @ $1.57						15 0
Landing Weight in and out, Crushing Mixing, Sampling Delivering Warehouse Rent						1.4 0
Sale, Commission and Guarantee £20 18 1 @ 1¼%						7 0
						£19.18.9
						£10 01.4

Net proceeds due June 8th 1877

SWANSEA MAY 2nd 1877

RICHARDSON & COMPANY

Assays made by Professor H. J Chapman for Copper Gold and Silver

"Metallic Copper"—	Gold	Silver
First Trial 20 40 per cent	7 dwt	1 oz. 7 dwt 12 grs
Second Trial 20 14 per cent.		

Average Amount 25.27%

The value of 20 27% ore, per ton at the low price of 17c per lb would be	$85 00
Value of Gold 7 dwt.	1 21
Value of Silver 1 oz 7 dwt. 12 grs	1.59
Amount in the ton	$88 20

Test for precious metals only by Chas Kriesman Assaying & Mining Engineer for the Duncan Mine —

First Trial—Gold 1 1034 oz		$20 94
Silver 7 76S oz		10 32
Total per ton		$33.39
Second Trial—Gold 0 723 oz		$14.59
Silver 8.25 oz		7 82
Total per ton		$22 71

Repeated tests with the blowpipe show that the precious metals are always present in the ore in more or less quantities at Swansea. The precious metals were not considered nor accounted for

An approximate of the working capacity of the Copper Lode—Two men in four weeks mined ten tons sent to Swansea besides many tons of a lower grade are left on the bank. Now after carefully considering the matter in all its bearings I have come to the conclusion that with the mine in regular operation with crusher and concentrating Mills and the mine opened out for stoping 30 tons of ore could be worked daily yielding at least 6 tons of 20% concentration ore at a cost of running expenses $750 00 Transportation to Swansea Commission and all would be less than $20 00 per ton. Giving a result per day as follows —5 tons of 20% concentrated ore at 17g per lb—$350

5 tons of 20% concentrated ore at 17g per lb.		$350.00
Running Expense	$150 00	
Cost of Transportation of five tons	100.00	
		$250 00
Leaving balance clear profits		$100.00

We propose to commence the works by building the Mills for crushing and concentrating the ore at the same time set a few miners to open out the vein. As some may think such a course premature the following reasons will explain matters

1st. The ore cannot be sent to the market profitably until after it is concentrated or milled

2nd By any other course our capital would be too small to make us sure of carrying the mine as a working capital is being raised

3rd Owing to the general depression in money matters it would be difficult to raise a large working capital

4th The amount of mining done though small and the large amount of the ore tested along with the general showing and characteristics of the lode show that there is ore enough to be worked out to justify the erection of mills at once

5th A few thousand Dollars expended in mining would not be likely to throw much additional light on the matter yet it might cripple us so that we would be unable to get the mill in operation without raising more capital.

The location is a small lake passing partly through the outlet which is convenient to the mine and presents a fall over 30 feet in 35 By building a small Dam across a narrow gorge the little lake can be raised six feet and it will answer admirably as a reservoir for a water power its area being about 80 acres It can easily be secured from the winter frost. By using water power instead of steam a very considerable saving in wood engineering etc. will be accomplished in working the ore

APPROXIMATE ESTIMATES REQUIRED TO PLACE THE MINE IN RUNNING ORDER.

Dam and Race —

Dam and Work upon Race	$350 00	
Oak Lumber for Water Conductor	$50 00	
Iron Bolts, etc for Water Conductor	100 00	
Extras	250 00	
		$1 000.00

Crushing & Concentrating Mills —

Timber for Building 1500 feet	$ 150.00	
Common Lumber for Building 1500 feet	100 00	
Shingles 25M	100 00	
Nails, Windows etc	100.00	
Water Wheel	400.00	
Work	300 00	
Crusher and Concentrator	1 000 00	
Extras	300 00	
		$3,100 00

Roads Buildings, etc.—

Tramway Mine to Mill	$ 500 00	
Buildings	500 00	
Roads Repairing	500 00	
Scow	100.00	
Horses Wagon Sleigh, etc	700 00	
Land that should be secured for wood and mill site	250 00	
Extras	300.00	
		$2 950 00
Total Amount		$6 750 00

BUILDINGS AND MINING PLANT UPON THE PROPERTY

On the Silver Location in good order are the following buildings and Mining Plant in good order belonging to the Company a Assets—all of which can be removed to the Copper Mine —

Engine and Shaft House 18 x 32' boarded inside and out, with board roof

A Dwelling House 18 x 02' of similar construction.

A five horse-power Engine and Boiler with the necessary material ready for hoisting

An Ingersol Rock Drill complete with a tunnel 200 feet iron tubing and 50 feet rubber tubing 300 feet of hoisting rope 2 mining buckets (one water and one rock) a blacksmith's forge anvil and other tools 300 to 400 pounds of steel drills half dozen picks pick axes, shovels one large cooking stove, half dozen mattresses, four pairs of blankets table dishes camp kettles and many other things useful in carrying on the Mine

The Steamer "Rescue", a Pioneer in Great Lakes Shipping

The following historical sketch of the Str Rescue one of the early boats to connect up Collingwood with Fort William is from the pen of Capt. James McCannell of the C P R steamer Assiniboia

The Rescue came into considerable prominence in 1870 when on Sept 10th of that year she had on a passenger to Collingwood H R H Edward Prince of Wales

The Rescue was originally a twin screw tug built in Buffalo in 1855 her dimensions being 121-5 keel 22-9 beam and 10 feet 6 deep her gross tonnage being 656

After buying it Capt Dick had a cabin put on and fitted the vessel for the Lake Superior trade as he had received the contract for carrying the mails for the Red River Settlement

According to the records of the American canal office the Rescue was the first registered Canadian steamer to pass through the locks making two round trips in July 1858

The first trip of the Rescue to Fort William is told us follows in a letter which appeared in the Toronto Globe but the authors name is now unknown —

Sir —As you have on all occasions taken a prominent part in advocating the opening up of the Hudsons Bay Territory and the north shore of Lake Superior I send you a log journal of the first trip of the Steamer Rescue Capt. James Dick from Collingwood to Fort William

On this trip she fairly maintained her previous reputation for in a heavy gale of wind on two hours for many hours between Michipicoten Island and Fort William she made her 10½ miles per hour and during the gale, was steady and free from any unpleasant motions We left Collingwood at 10.30 a m. on the 13th July 1858 Capt Kennedy being in charge of the mails for the Red River settlement We passed Cobdens Head at 6.30 p m Cove Island light at 3 p.m (merely a lantern on the top of the tower visible about 2 miles on a clear night) passed between the middle and Western Ducks at 4 a. m at easy steam so as to enter Mississaga Straits in daylight at 11.30 a.m ran alongside the wharf at Bruce Mines landed mailed and wooded Under the kind supervision of Mr Davidson we inspected the process of extracting copper ore from the bowels of the earth We found that it contained 4% at the mouth of the pit and 25% barrelled up in the form of pigs Sometime ago the Montreal Mining Company (owning the Bruce Mines) leased half their location to the Wellington Mining Company

There are in consequence with in one mile separated by a small island, two establishments forming one considerable town Arrived at Sault Ste Marie Finis wharf (British side) at 7 p m landed mails and ran over to the American side for coals At 8 a m on the 14th entered the ship canal, paying 6 cents per ton lockage dues

Mr Simpson of the Hudsons Bay Company very politely sent with us the Captain of their schooner to pilot us through to Pine Point, where we engaged his son in law Alex. Clark as pilot passed Whitefish Point, Lake Superior at 10 a.m Caribou Island at 4.30 p.m This island was so called from the circumstance of Capt. Mc Hargo who accompanied Mayfield in his survey having on one occasion killed 40 Caribou on it. At 8 p.m we were close to "Rescue Harbor" island at Michipicoten The harbor at Michipicoten is described by the pilot, who has been fifteen years on the lakes as superb and is so laid down by Mayfield The island is about 14 miles by 6 covered with spruce, or birch ash

and maple, the latter growing on elevated ground. There are several lakes in it full of speckled trout, the bay is full of salmon trout and white fish. A schooner was loaded here last season in a very short time with fish taken in, and about the harbor and the climate is said by old voyageurs to be far more pleasant during the winter than at the Sault and other places further south being of a drier nature. Between the island and the main land is the most sheltered passage with two excellent harbors on each side one at Otter Creek and the other at Michipicoten River and harbor.

The latter place is an important port of the Hudson's Bay Company distant from Moose Fort on Hudson's Bay 300 miles this has been passed over in canoes in six days. Michipicoten Island in said to contain great mineral deposits—silver copper and lead. The Quebec Mining Company have a location here. At day break on Thursday we passed Slate Island, and shortly after encountered a dense fog and lay to till 1 p.m. It was two o'clock before we saw land. Passed close to Thunder Cape a perpendicular rock rising from the water's edge 1350 feet. Anchored at Fort William situated at the mouth of the Kaministiquia River at 7 p.m. on Thursday the 14th and landed off the mail. Owing to a fog and the shoal at the mouth of the river we anchored about a mile from the Fort, early on Friday the 15th. Some of the party went up the river to the Jesuit Mission, about three miles where they were kindly received by the Priest.

Capt. James Bisk, and Mr. McMurrich went fishing to Current River about five miles to the north where the speckled trout proved too large and strong for their light rods and tackle smashing the copper of their lines and flies as fast as they were thrown in and they had to give it up for want of material. One of the trout caught was the largest speckled trout I have seen for many years.

There are trout in this stream and in all rapid streams between the Sault and Fort William from 2 lbs. to 4 lbs. and if larger ones are required at Nipegon River they can be caught from 3 lbs. to 12 lbs. Fancy such a spot, ye disciples of Isaac Walton speckled trout to be had for the trouble of throwing a fly within 48 hours of Toronto weighing from two to twelve pounds. In this area it is also found beautiful specimens of Amethyst and other precious stones. The gardens at Fort William, and the Jesuit Mission are as forward as those on the north part of the county of Simcoe. The Hudson's Bay Company have a large farm. 50 cows besides horses and sheep and up the river there are other farms they raise oats barley and all other kinds of vegetables and I see no reason why they cannot raise wheat. Mrs McIntyre the wife of the agent, was very polite and kind and invited us all up to the Fort—gave us supplies of milk and vegetables.

By this route their trade is carried on to Red River. Sir George Simpson returned from Red River just before we arrived with two canoes (9 men in each) and left again for the Sault. This bay Black Thunder Neepigon Bay and Pie Island bay and neighborhood abound in whitefish and trout—10 fish frequently fill a barrel—20 as a general rule nets should be 5½ to 7½ inch mesh. One pilot two years ago in five weeks with two men filled 17 barrels. He was furnished by merchants at the Sault with barrels and salt, and $5.00 when returned full—the rate this year being about $4.00. Thirty barrels of white fish were taken at one haul of a seine near Fort William. We left Fort William at 3 p.m. for Grand Portage passing McKay's Mount of Greenstone 1000 feet perpendicular height. La Pate on Pie Island 250 feet perpendicular this island is said to abound in lead. hardly a stone can be picked up on the shore without lead in it. Go all these islands valuable stones can be picked up, fit for brooches and rings.

The channel being very intricate and the pilot not quite posted up, we lay to till daylight and entered Grand Portage Bay at 5 a.m. Capt. Kennedy landed here with the mails purchased a canoe and was ready to start before we left. A nucleus of a town has already sprung up here on the United States side. After giving Capt. Kennedy a hearty shake of the hand all

round we started homeward at 7 15 a m. and passed Copper Harbor at 2 p.m Manitou light 5 50 p m White fish point 5.40 a.m and on the 18th July entered Sault canal at 1d 18 a m Coaled on the American side and wooded at Pine s wharf British side. Landed the mail and started at 2 45 p m came to the wharf at the Cruce Mines at 7 p m —wooded and left at 7 4d p m. passing through the Mississaga Straits and the channel between the middle and West Duck. On the 19th passed Cove Island light at 8 a. m.—Cabot s Head at 10 a m and came to the wharf at Collingwood at 6 p. m. this making the first trip including delays and stoppages round Lake Superior in seven days and six hours distance run, taken from Bayfield s chart, between 1350 and 1390 geographical miles The average speed running time being a little over 10 miles per hour The scenery throughout, and specially that of Superior is magnificent and now that the means of communication are afforded to this great and unknown region, in a safe and commodious boat under the care of a well known and experienced captain it must become a favorite route for the tourist in search of health and picturesque scenery

—oOo—

AN INTERVIEW WITH CAPTAIN DICK OF THE S. S. RESCUE.

(Copied originally from the Kingston Whig into the Thunder Bay Sentinel, of June 29, 1886.)

Captain Dick Inspector of Hulls, was the first who navigated a steamer up to Fort William, in Thunder Bay This was in 1858 The fact was an interesting one and the Whig reporter meeting the genial captain at the British American Hotel had quite a long-headed interview with him about it He said that along in 1858 a company of Toronto people was formed and a contract given to them to carry mail from Collingwood to Fort Garry now Winnipeg Captain Dick and his brother went to Dublin and purchased the Steamer Rescue, a handsome craft. The boat was originally built for service on the Florida coast but the company who had hastily taken hold and the Dicks secured her for one-third her value. The captain found her to be the safest steamer he had ever commanded The wildest gales did not disturb her

There was great opposition to the proposed opening up of the northwest, by the Hudson Bay Company and through their efforts the mail contract was abrogated and the Toronto gentlemen suffered great loss.

Mr Dawson now member for Algoma was engineer of the Toronto company's case He laid out the route for taking the mails through from Fort William Bridle paths were cut through to Dog Lake, thence to Rainy River and down as far as the boundary line Boats were then dispatched down the Winnipeg river and finally the bags were carried across the plains to Fort Garry by Indians The first trip of the voyageurs was a dangerous one and the mails went forward at the point of the revolver The Indians objected to the advance of civilization.

My first trip was to Fort William in the Rescue said the captain I had never been on the lakes before, but by chart I succeeded in getting to my destination without touching stick or stone It was a bright moonlight night when I anchored off Fort William and in ten minutes afterwards the boat was surrounded by a hundred canoes They were filled with Indians, who had silently swept down to see the monster but they would not come near the vessel Presently the H B Co s factor approached in a huge gondola rowed by twenty Indians who sang their boating songs. The night was pleasantly spent in conversation with the factor who pointed out the sights being very clear the magnificent territory which the H. B. Company controlled The company afterwards changed exorbitantly for everything that was wanted They were opposed to our going into the country and finally succeeded in getting our contract cancelled

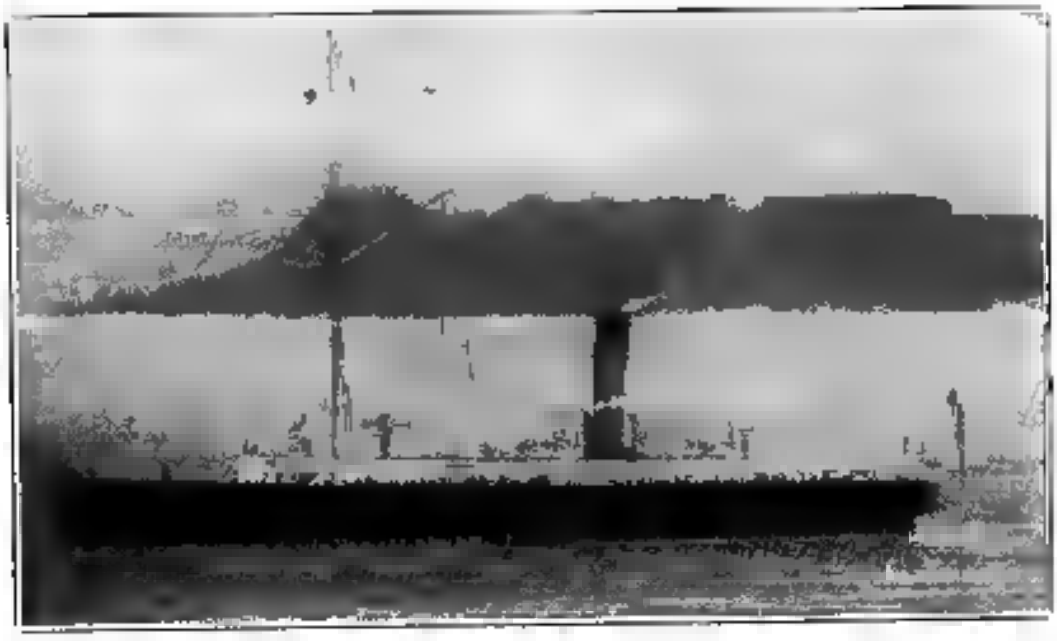
We had much trouble in keeping our canoe stations intact. Once, that at Dog Lake was burn down and the boats scattered. I later bought one of our own boats at Fort William but as soon as I discovered our brand beneath the paint I refused to pay for it. We used coal on our trips up and wood going down. We bought land where Port Arthur is now and we think we still have a claim there. The government sold it without our leave but the money we paid for it lies in the Crown Lands Office and we intend to have a refund or some satisfaction soon. Many a time I have taken on wood at Port Arthur. When I first went up the lakes there were only three white men living on the route.

"What did you get," inquired the reporter "for carrying the mails?"

"We got twelve hundred dollars a trip."

Did you carry much mail"

The first mail I took up consisted of two letters, and three papers. Previously the mail for the Hudson Bay factors, was sent in from the Hudson Bay."



STEAMER "RESCUE"

Built at Buffalo N. Y. 1855 (official No. 23523). Length between perpendiculars 121 ft. 5 in. Beam 22 ft. 4 in. Depth 10 ft. Tons 249 net, 350 gross.

This was the first registered Canadian steamer to pass through the Old State Lock at Sault Ste. Marie Mich. in July 1858, trading from Collingwood to Fort William and to Grand Portage, carrying passengers mail and freight. Capt. Dick being the commander. When the Prince of Wales (King Edward VII.) visited Collingwood Sept. 10th 1860 this steamer took the Royal party for a trip around the harbor.

Narrative of the Canadian Red River Exploring Expedition of 1857

On account of its local interest Mr Alex. McNaughton copied this chapter from a rare book belonging to the Governmental Library in Ottawa and presented the copy to the Historical Society

By Henry Youle Hind M.A F.R.G.S
Professor of Chemistry and Geology in the University of Trinity College Toronto

in charge of the Assiniboine and Saskatchewan Expedition

CHAPTER II

The Kaministiquia Route — Fort William — Lake Superior in the Height of Land

THUNDER BAY which receives the waters of the Kaministiquia (spelt "Kaministikwaya" by Sir Jno Richardson "the river that runs far about") forms a portion of the north west expansion of Lake Superior It is the most southerly of three large and deep land locked bays which characterize that part of the coast and it is situated between the parallels of 48° 16' north latitude and in longitude 89° and 89° 25 west of Greenwich Its greatest length in a north-easterly direction is 32 miles, and its breadth from Thunder Cape to the mouth of the Kaministiquia upon which Fort William is situated about 14 miles.

The main entrance to the bay is between the imposing headlands of Thunder Cape 1250 feet above the lake level and Pie Island 8 miles southwest of the Cape, with an altitude of 350 feet. The depth of water in this broad entrance exceeds 180 feet, and a measure of 50 to 120 feet is maintained in many parts of the bay

Seven miles southeast of Thunder Cape the lake is 430 feet deep, with a muddy bottom

Immediately opposite and east of the three mouths of the Kaministiquia the Welcome Islands are distant about two miles and inside of these islands from 30 to 60 feet of water is shown on Bayfield's chart Within half a mile of the river's mouth the water shoals rapidly and the bar has a variable depth of 3½ to 6½ feet of water upon it but within 1400 yards of the north or main channel, 12 to 14 feet of water is maintained Land is forming fast near the mouths of the river and large areas in advance of the increasing delta, sustain a thick growth of rushes

At a distance of about half a mile from the exit of the northern or main channel, Fort William is situated upon the left or north bank Opposite to it is a large island formed by the middle channel of the Kaministiquia which branches off from the main stream about one and a half miles from the bay In the time of the North West Company this island was denuded of the trees it produced which consisted mainly of tamarack for fuel and other purposes and the greater portion is now covered with second growth A large area south of the fort still remains denuded of wood and forms the site of an Ojibway village besides serving as an excellent open pasture ground for a herd of oxen belonging to the Hudson's Bay Company which swim across the river every morning a distance of 400 feet, and return at an early hour in the afternoon to the farm yard in the vicinity of the fort

The banks of the river here are low and flat, not exceeding ten feet in altitude. In the rear of the fort, tamarack of small but dense growth prevails The soil is a light sandy loam reposing on yellowish clay

Two miles above the fort and in a direction nearly south from it, the third or southern outlet separates from the main channel. The banks of the river continue to rise above the level of its waters until they attain at the Mission of the Im

Immaculate Conception an altitude of 18 or 20 feet. Near the Mission the Indian Reserve of about 25 square miles begins. It embraces the best and largest area of cultivable land in the valley of the Kaministiquia, and much of it being situated on the flanks of McKay's mountain range some portions possess many advantages which do not belong to the available tracts near the shores of Thunder Bay.

The general course of the river above the Mission for a distance of nine miles is towards the southwest by very tortuous windings. Five miles from Fort William it approaches the base of the elevated but broken table lands to which McKay's Mountain forms an imposing and abrupt termination. McKay's Mountain has an elevation of 1024 feet above the lake, and is the north-eastern boundary of an irregular but extended trap range, whose south-eastern flank follows the trend of the coast as far as Pigeon River.

It is worthy of remark that the flanks of Mackay's Mountain support a heavy growth of hardwood timber (maple, etc.) and through various seasons I was informed that this heavily-timbered land stretches far to the southwest on the lake and borders of the trap range. The rock formations which comprise the country between the Kaministiquia and Pigeon Rivers indicate the presence of a fertile soil on the flank of the irregular table land. The trap with which the slates are associated giving rise upon disintegration to a soil of superior character. At the Mission a light reddish loam constitutes the soil, having a depth of six feet, and resting upon a bluish grey clay which extends to the water's edge.

The Mission of the Immaculate Conception is under the charge of the Rev. Jean Pierre Choné who has resided on the banks of the Kaministiquia for nine years. From that gentleman who kindly afforded me much information respecting this valley I obtained numerous facts of interest in relation to its adaptation for settlement. At the Mission there are already congregated from thirty to thirty-five houses, substantially built of wood, in their general arrangement and construction they are far superior to the log houses of Canadian pioneers in the forest. Many of them have gardens attached to them a few of which were in a good state of cultivation; some small fields fenced with post and rail were in the rear of the most thriving. The river here is from 5h to 7h yards wide, its waters are very turbid with a current not exceeding two miles an hour.

M. Choné's room, into which we were admitted, gave us a clue to the prosperity, cleanliness, and appearance of industry which distinguished the Mission. A young tame partridge was hopping about the floor when we entered. A number of books occupied a small table in one corner, the other was taken up by a turning lathe, and various articles manufactured by the cure were lying about the room. A low bed covered with a buffalo robe filled another corner, and while we were conversing an elk chief dressed in scarlet cloth, quietly entered and placed himself on a chair by the side of a small carpenter's bench, which filled the remaining angle.

Among many interesting facts with which we were furnished by the kindness of M. Choné, we learned various particulars respecting the condition of the Indians and their relation to the government of Canada which an investigation of the treaty confirmed.

In 1850 a treaty was concluded by the Hon. W. B. Robinson on behalf of Her Majesty and the Government of the Province with the Chiefs of the Ojibway Indians inhabiting the northern shore of Lake Superior from Batchawanaung Bay to Pigeon River and inland to the height of land between Canada and the territories in the occupation of the Hudson's Bay Company. For the sum of £2000 currency and an annual payment of £2h0 to be paid at Fort William and Michipicoten the chiefs surrendered all their right and title to the above territory with the exception of the following reserves made over to them for the purposes of residence and cultivation, allowance being given under certain reasonable restrictions that they shall still hold over the territory and fish in the waters as heretofore. The

number of Indians included in this treaty was 1248 The reservations made for their benefit were as follows

First For Joseph Fuse du Chat and his tribe the reserve to commence Chaudière Island two miles from Fort William on the right bank of the River Kaministiquia thence westerly six miles parallel to the shores of the Lake, thence northerly five miles thence easterly to the right bank of the said river so as not to interfere with any acquired rights of the Honorable Hudson's Bay Company

Second Four miles square at Gros Cap for Po-to-mi-nai and tribe and

Third Four miles square at Gull River near Lake Superior on both sides of the river for the chief Mishmuckqua.

Our Iroquois being desirous of going to mass at the Mission on Sunday August 2nd, several of the party accompanied them and witnessed the rather rare spectacle of a numerous and most attentive Indian congregation engaged in Christian worship. The chapel is a very spacious and well constructed building of wood with a semi-circular ceiling painted light blue. The walls were panelled to the height of about four feet and altogether the interior arrangements and decorations exceeded my anticipations and everywhere showed the industrious hand or intelligent direction of the Rev M Chone The Indians forming the regular congregations were arranged in the most orderly manner the left side of the chapel being appropriated to the men and boys, the right to the women and girls The boys and girls were placed in front of their seniors. The men were provided with forms the women sat upon the floor The utmost decorum prevailed throughout the service and the chanting of both men and women was excellent, that of the squaws being remarkably low and sweet. Few of the male portion of the congregation took their eyes from the priest or their books during the service The squaws drew their shawls or blue hats over the head and showed the utmost attention The Cure delivered a long sermon in the Ojibway language with much energy and seemingly with the greatest fluency After the ordinary service of the day was over being before requested by one of our party he delivered an admirable sermon in French. His style, language and manner were of a very superior order and the drift of his words seemed to go far to shadowing forth the philanthropic impulses which sustained him in his solitary work of love, so remote from society comfort, and civilization

In the afternoon I visited the mouth of Current River six miles from Fort William The river reaches the Lake by a succession of sloping falls over an argillaceous rock, which in the aggregate exceed forty feet in height within half a mile from the lake The common chiva was found occupying in abundance the cracks and fissures of the shale on the banks of the river

I visited during the day the garden of the fort its area is about 1¾ acres. The shallots were small but the potatoes looked well being at the time in flower and Mr McIntyre thinks that varieties may be found which will ripen well near the fort Tomatoes do not ripen here turnips and cabbages are very liable to be destroyed by the cut worm or grub the currant bushes procured from the forest flourish admirably and produce a very large berry the red currant was just beginning to ripen This part of the country appears to abound in currants raspberries strawberries and gooseberries they were seen growing in the woods in every direction where direct light penetrated A patch of oats in the garden showed a most remarkable development of stalk and leaf, and the ears were beginning to show themselves The soil of the garden was brought from the foot of the Kakabeka Falls in the time of the North West Company's glory

The average period when the Kaministiquia freezes is from the third to the fifteenth of November and it becomes free from ice between the twentieth and twenty-third April The year 1857 proved an exception in many respects the ice did not pass out of the river until the fifteenth of May and on the first of August the day of my visit, the waters of the river were

higher than they had ever been known before at that season of the year

Indian corn will not succeed in this settlement, early and late frost cutting it off Frost occurs here under the influence of the cold expanse of Lake Superior until the end of June and begins again towards the end of August. A few miles further up the river west of McKay's Mountain the late and early are of rare occurrence and it was stated that Indian corn would ripen on the banks of McKay's Mountain.

All kinds of small grain succeeds well at the Mission and the reason why they have not been more largely cultivated is owing to the want of a mill for the purpose of converting them into flour or meal Near the lake at Fort William for instance oats do not always ripen the cold air from the lake, whose surface, thirty and fifty miles from land showed a temperature of 37° F at the close of the hottest month of the year is sufficient to prevent many kinds of vegetables from acquiring maturity which succeed admirably four or five miles up the river

Fragments of limestone have been procured in the neighborhood but the locality would not be pointed out by any of its inhabitants The ruins of a lime kiln used by the North West Company have been discovered and it is very probable that the limestone was obtained from crystalline layers, the existence of which has been established over wide areas in Thunder Bay by Sir William Logan, and are noticed by him as being of a reddish white color and very compact some of which would yield good material for burning These beds of impure limestone are mentioned by Mr Murray (geological survey of Canada, for 1848-7) as occurring in the lower portions of the formation occupying this valley

It is worthy of notice that substantial records of far more extensive settlements than now exist showing a much higher degree of civilization and improvement, are found at or near the various posts along this route, and particularly at Fort William

Most of these remains of former industry and art date from the time when the North West Company occupied the country, and there is reason to believe that much valuable knowledge respecting the resources of particular localities has been forgotten or is hidden in the memories of those who may not have the opportunity to make it known

Mr Keating mentions the ruins of the old Fort de Maurepas erected by Lord Selkirk He was also shown the remains of a winter road opened by that enterprising nobleman from the Kaministiquia to the Grand Portage on the Pigeon River about thirty-six miles distant The remains of a road to White Fish Lake is also still to be seen and indeed it forms a winter route for mail carriers and Indians at the present day between the lakes on the Pigeon River and the valley of the Kaministiquia. The Canadian government have recently laid out the valley of the Kaministiquia below the Kakabeka Falls into two townships names respectively Paipongue and Neebing

On the Third of August we prepared for our immediate departure, and were all ready with the exception of the Iroquois Indians by 10 a m. The delay with them arose from an indisposition to separate and be associated in different canoes with the Ojibways we were obliged to hire by noon however an arrangement was made it being determined that one brigade of three canoes should proceed at once the other follow on the morrow Just before starting a large body of heathen Indians, from the camp on the opposite side of the river came over in a number of small canoes and commenced a dance outside of the pickets of the fort. They were painted and feathered in various ways and furnished an admirable subject for our artists Having danced on the outside of the fort for some minutes they entered and arranged themselves in a semi-circle in the quadrangle The medicine-man and his assistant gaudily painted and decked with eagles feathers sat on the ground beating a drum, and near to them squatted some half dozen squaws with a few children. About sixty men and boys, headed by the chief painted and feathered similar to the medicine man, danced

or jumped around the ring. Our party being collected in front of the chief he made a short speech which was interpreted by a half-breed attached to the expedition to the following effect. "They were happy to see us on the soil they were hungry and required food and trusted to our generosity and the plenty by which we were surrounded." The pipe of peace was then lit, and handed in turns for each to take a whiff. The picture of a hand across the mouth and cheek was admirably drawn in black on the breast of the chief and medicine-man. The Ka-ki-whe-on or insignia consisted of eagles feathers stuck in a strip of red cloth about four feet long and attached to a cedar pole. The whole scene was highly ridiculous and many of the performers were wretched looking creatures being dreadfully affected with scrofula. Some of the men, however, possessed splendid looking figures but the progress of civilization will soon close the history of these wretched Indians of the Kaministiquia.

Our first brigade, consisting of two large five fathom and one middle size canoe containing twenty-six men in all started from Fort William at 6 p.m. and arrived opposite McKay's Mountain at about half past six. Half a mile above the mission we noticed a very neat house in a clearing of about ten acres in extent the last effort of civilization to be seen with the exception at an occasional post of the Hudson's Bay Company for many hundred miles. The first camp was pitched about three quarters of a mile beyond McKay's Mountain.

Opposite this magnificent exposure of trap, the clay banks of the river are about 14 feet high and continue to rise on one side or the other until they attain an elevation of nearly 60 feet, often however retiring from the present bed of the river and giving place to an alluvial terrace, some 2 or 3 feet in altitude, and clothed with the richest profusion of grasses and twining flowering plants. The current begins to be rapid about nine miles above Fort William soon after passing Pohl de Mouron the site of the fort established by Lord Selkirk before referred to, and continues so in the ascending course of the stream to the foot of the first dam portage, called the Decharges des Paresseux, where an exposure of shale creates the rapids which occasion the portage. The fall here is five feet 1 inch in a space of 924 feet. The distance of this portage from the lake, by the windings of the river is about 22¼ miles and the total rise probably reaches 35 feet.

The current continues rapid to the foot of the Grand Falls, and high rock exposures commence on the precipitous banks three miles below them. These gradually assume the form of mural cliffs capped with drift, increasing in altitude until they attain at the foot of the Grand Falls the height of about 160 feet on the left bank while on the opposite side of the river the mountain portage path winds round the steep hill side of a bold projecting escarpment, 91 feet in altitude, and nearly half a mile from the falls.

At our camp, seven miles below the Grand or Kakabeka Falls (cleft rock) as they are termed the level of the river was estimated to be 40 feet above Lake Superior and the foot of the falls 1d feet higher. The Grand Falls themselves are found by leveling to have an altitude of 119 05 feet, and involved a portage of 42 chains or three quarters of a mile. They are distant from the mouth of the river by its windings about 3h miles, and in an air line 17 miles.

As the altitude of these falls has attracted the attention of several observers, the different results obtained may not be without interest —

Altitude ascertained by leveling (Mr Dawson August, 1857)	119.05
Capt. (now Col.) Lefroy barometrical measurement	115.00
Mr Murray of the Canadian Geological Survey	113 00
Major Delafield	125 00
Sir John Richardson Barometrical Measurement	127 h0
Lieuts Scott and Denny	130.00

Assuming the height of Kakabeka to be 115 feet the summit will be 175 feet above Lake Superior This result includes the rapids at the foot of the falls. The levels were taken along the portage path, and if the rapids be deducted the true height of Kakabeka probably does not exceed 105 feet.

The scenery at the Grand Falls is extremely beautiful The river precipitates its yellowish brown water over a shaty ledge into a narrow and profound gorge The plateau above the portage cliff and nearly on a level with the summit of the falls, is covered with a profusion of blueberries, strawberries raspberries pigeon cherry and various flowering plants, among which the bluebell was most conspicuous. On the left side of the falls a talus talus is covered with wild mint and grasses which grow luxuriantly under the spray Beautiful rainbows of very intense colour are continually projected on this talus, when the position of the sun and the cloudiness of the sky are favorable Numerous small springs trickle down a perpendicular cliff of about 12 feet in altitude at the base of the talus whose coolness and clearness compared with the warm, coloured waters of the river, make them a delicious beverage, the difference between the temperature of the springs and river being about 2h° The right side of the cliff at the falls is perpendicular for a height of more than 100 feet and exposes the stratification with perfect fidelity The peculiar rounded forms into which the rock divides itself noticed by Mr Murray were well marked

The alluvial valley of the river from about three miles below the mountain portage to Fort William varies in breadth from a few hundred yards to one mile the breadth occupied by land of a quality which might fit it for agricultural purposes extends to near the summit of the flank of a low table land which marks the true limit of the river valley and the average breadth of this may be double that of the strictly alluvial portion.

The low table land is thinly wooded with small pine and the soil is poor and dry the alluvial valley sustains elm aspen balsam, poplar ash, butternut and a very luxuriant profusion of grasses vetches, and climbing plant among which the wild hop honeysuckle, and convolvulus are the most conspicuous The rear portion of the valley with an admixture of the trees just named, contains birch, balsam-spruce white and black spruce and some heavy aspens The underbrush embraces hazelnut, cherries of two varieties, etc.

Occasionally the flanks of the low table land approach the river contract the valley and give an unfavourable aspect to the country This occurs near the Decharges des Paresseux, and at most of the heavier rapids The area available for agricultural purposes below the Grand Falls probably exceeds twenty thousand acres but if the flanks of McKay's Mountain be included in the estimate a large addition may with propriety be assumed

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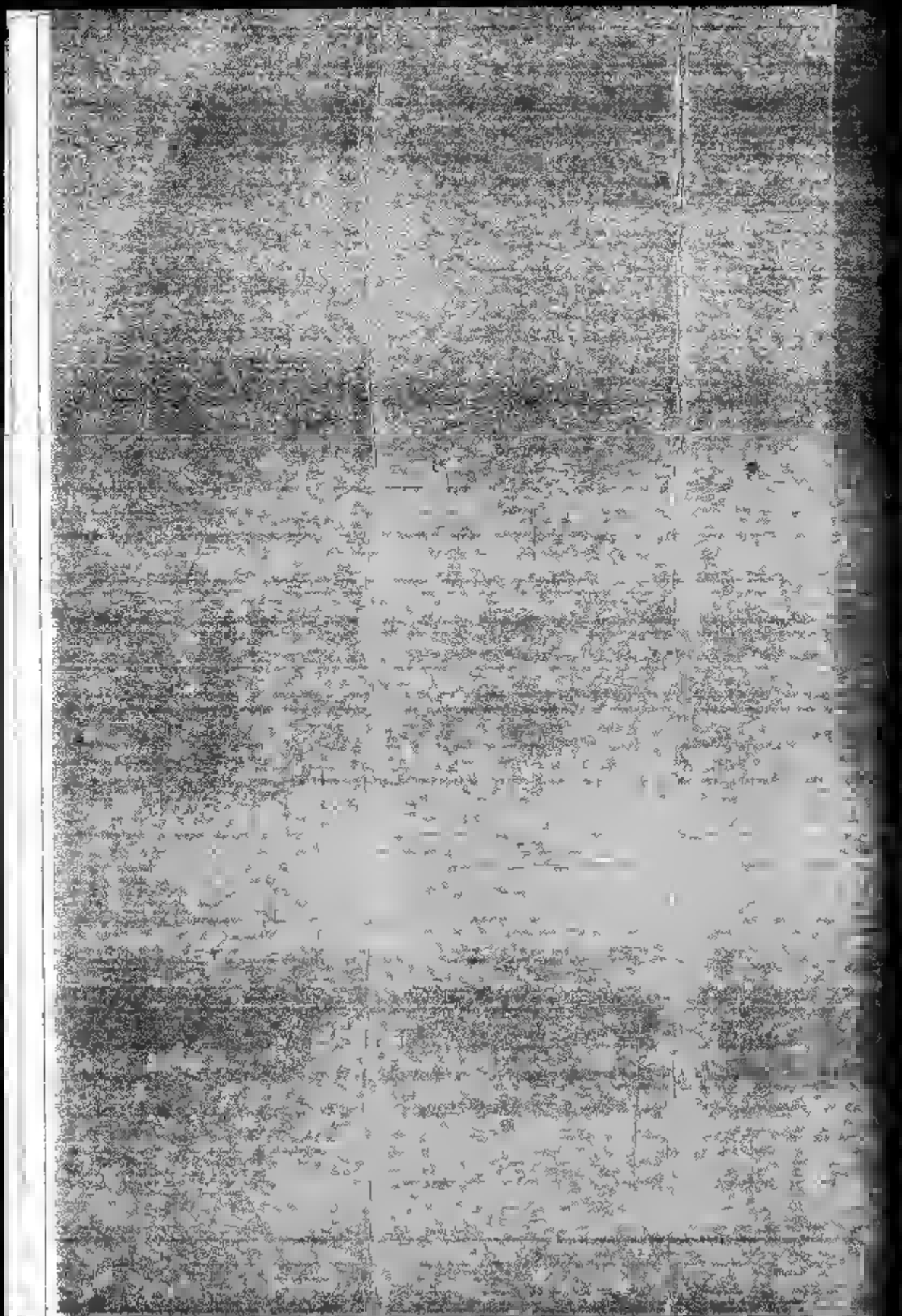
The Thunder Bay Historical Society

Fourteenth Annual Report

PAPERS OF 1923



The Thunder Bay Historical Society

Fourteenth Annual Report

Papers of 1923

Thunder Bay Historical Society

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Secretary-Treasurer's Report

MISS M J L BLACK

To the President and Members of the Thunder Bay Historical Society

Sir and Fellow Members

I beg to report that during the year we have held four regular meetings all at the home of the President — On Oct 27 the speaker was Mr McKellar whose paper was on The Little Pic Silver Mine This paper was continued on Dec 29th On July 9th 1923 the speaker was Capt. McCannel his subject being Shipping on the Great Lakes (By the speaker's request this paper will not be published until next year) On September 20 a paper was provided by Mr Alex McNaughton in the form of a chapter from the work of Professor H. R. Hind on Exploration in the Kaministiquia Valley in 1857 Captain McCannel also sent us a reading covering the Log of the S S Rescue on its first trip into Lake Superior in 1868

We have a paid up membership of 13

It is with great regret that we note the loss of one of our most faithful and popular members in the person of Mrs F C Perry She was a chartered member and always showed the greatest interest in our work She will long be missed by us all

The Society was fortunate in receiving from Capt. McCannel a set of photographs of four of the earliest boats plying in Thunder Bay the Algoma, the Ploughboy the Waubano and the Cumberland We have also received in exchange various interesting and valuable reports, and annuals.

Respectfully submitted,

M J L BLACK
Secretary

THUNDER BAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Financial Statement

Receipts

Oct. 1 1922—	
Balance in bank	$ 3 00
Government grant	100 00
Membership Fees	11 00
Mr J M Sherk	
Mr Fred Fregeau	
Miss Robin	
Capt McCannell	
Mr and Mrs C W Jarvis	
Mr and Mrs G A Graham	
Mr and Mrs John King	
Mr and Mrs Peter McKellar	
Miss Black	
	$110 00

Disbursements

Affiliation fee to Canadian Historical Society	$ 3 00
Printing Annual Report	32 25
Oct. 1 1923 bal in bank	56 75
	$110 00

The Little Pic Silver Mine

by PETER McKELLAR

REPORT OF THE DEVELOPMENTS TO THE HON WM CAYLEY AND ASSOCIATES

Sirs

t have the honour of reporting to you as follows in reference to the developments of the Little Pic Locations

According to Agreement on receipt of the first instalment of $500 00 cheque from you, t procured 12 men and supplies and started on the 12th of June last from Fort William on Tug Watchman (specially chartered for our use) to the Locations which are distant from Fort William about 150 miles—arriving at our destination on the 14th We worked steadily without intermission until the 21st of August last when work was closed I returned with six hands and 22 barrels of ore as sample of that from No 1 Shaft in the same Tug with Schooner MaryAnn in tow sent specially to bring us back

We opened and mined to one Drift and four Shafts besides making some 25 cross-cuts in the overlying drift or earth covering a mile in extent along the vein for the purpose of tracing it as it had been exposed on high places only and at long intervals One Shaft 6 by 12 feet was sunk 2 to 3 feet one 7 by 8 was sunk 6 feet one 8 by 10 feet was sunk 15 feet and the other or No Shaft on 40 6 by 11 feet was sunk to the depth of 31 feet and well timbered with a good windlass in position The Drift was driven 27 feet from the place of beginning getting 8 feet under cover At 10 of the cross cuts the rock was not reached owing to the depth of earth At two or three other veins it is from 6 to 8 inches in width but in most places it is over 3 feet wide and in many over 6 feet. The vein is subject to decomposition at surface so that with a few exceptions we were unable to reach the solid though we followed it down in many places 5 to 6 feet in the glacier between the two walls Wherever we blasted into the solid lode we found the argentiferous ores in considerable quantities And at each place in sinking we noticed a decided improvement in the ore both in quality and quantity and in the deepest shaft near the bottom we discovered native Silver in thin leaves and fine particles through the vein stone

About nine tons of ore was assorted—2 at the Drift and 3 at each of the two deepest Shafts—of course only a portion of what was taken out Over two tons of that from No 1 Shaft was packed to the Shore and brought away to have it tested One of the barrels contains about 400 pounds of the Argentiferous compact zinc ore from the bottom of the 30 feet Shaft An average specimen of which (about 4 pounds) was pulverized and an average sample taken by Mr Chiddey (assayer of the Duncan Mine) it yielded silver $13 12 per ton A sample of the galena ore (of which there is a considerable quantity) from the bottom of the same shaft was tested by Mr Chiddey and after separating the gangue by washing it yielded $124 25 per ton of silver besides that the lead would be worth $50 00 to $60 00 per ton so that the ore after washing would be worth about $206 per ton The galena at surface in this Shaft yielded $22 00 of silver to the ton while as above shown at 30 feet yielded $124 25 Again the native silver is showing in fine particles at the bottom while at surface none was seen, besides the quantity of ore is much greater below; therefore, there is every indication that at a greater depth it will be much richer I have made repeated tests with the Blow pipe of the ore from the different Shafts at various depths and found it always carried the silver in more or less quantities and apparently improving in depth.

All doubts of its giving out by sinking will be dispelled when it is known that it has been traced for about 3 miles, showing the same characteristics and ores throughout and that it cuts the vertical sotstes (country rock) at an angle of 40° with their strike and also the intrusive dykes of trap and porphyry which in the vicinity are numerous

On the location is a fine water-power in the most favorable situation possible for working these ores It is immediately adjacent to the 30 foot Shaft and could be worked at least 8 months in the year and, I believe the whole 12 months with a small outlay in securing it from the frost

I have brought to Toronto 2 barrels of samples which for your satisfaction I propose to have examined by Professor Chapman in order to get his opinion as to whether or not it would be advisable to have two tons of ore now lying at Windsor smelted before proceeding any further

They can be treated either at Newark N J or Wyandotte but in small parcels like this it costs $10 00 per ton For my part I am perfectly satisfied without going to the expense of testing the 2 tons that the developments should it possible be carried on this winter the results already obtained to my mind, very satisfactory In conclusion I would say that my working on the lots this summer has strengthened me in the belief previously expressed to you that it is a rich silver lode which only requires development to prove remunerative

I see by an extract in the "Engineering and Mining Journal of July 24th from the Report of the Commissioner of Mining Statistics (United States) that the Hale and Norcross mine of the famous Mines on the Great Comstock Silver Lode which has attained the enormous depth of 2200 feet and of course requiring very expensive machinery for hoisting etc., had worked during the year 17,469 tons of ore which yielded $295,301 12—a yield of less than $17 per ton, and in some mines ores yielding much less is worked Now when ores like this can be worked with profit in Nevada where labour, fuel and supplies of all kinds are so much more expensive than on Lake Superior surely we can work with profit ores of a much lower grade being directly connected by water with numerous railway centres and large manufacturing Cities of the United States and Canada The present summer's developments at Silver Island prove this beyond dispute too I am credibly informed that the cost of mining stamping and separating the ores does not exceed $2 50 per ton the yield of the ore worked being $15 to $25 per ton. The shipping and further reduction of the concentrated ore will amount to a trifle on account of its richness

We have a great advantage over the Silver Islet Company in having a great length of vein on the dry land and a good water power close at hand to drive the machinery

I remain,

Your Obedient Servant,

PETER McKELLAR

Toronto 20th September, 1875

The Little Pic Copper Mine

by PETER McKELLAR

This report is drawn up under the following heads (1) Preliminary Remarks (2) Site and General Description of the Property (3) Mineral Features (4) Result of Assays and Test in the Large Way. (5) Buildings and Mining Plant on the Property (6) Proposed System of Working the Mine (7) Approximate Estimates Required to Place the Mine in Running Order (8) General Description of the Silver Lode

(1) PRELIMINARY REMARKS — The property upon which this report is made is traversed by two distinct metalliferous lodes The one intersecting location K120 is a copper ore lode carrying gold and silver, the other intersecting locations V 49, V-50 and V-51 carries the ores of lead and zinc unusually rich in silver The property is situated on the North Shore of Lake Superior nearly opposite the Pic Island and about 140 miles east of Fort William Location V-52 fronts on a bay which forms an excellent natural harbor in Lake Superior line of steamers will call whenever business requires it I have had very favorable opportunities of gaining information of the mineral characteristics of this as all the works were carried on under my own supervision and I can conscientiously say that I believe it is seldom that capital is invested in mining on so sure a foundation.

(2) SITE AND GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY — The property comprises altogether the following locations

(1)	K120—2½ miles N W of Harbor Bay	51 acres
(2)	V 49—1½ miles N of Harbor Bay	160 acres
(3)	V 50—Adjoining V-49 on the West	160 acres
(4)	V 51—Adjoining V-50 on the West	160 acres
(5)	V 52—Fronting on Harbor Bay	91 acres
	Total No of Acres	622 acres

The country is rough rocky and mountainous elevated in places 800 to 900 feet above the Lake These locations have been to a great extent stripped of wood by fires but in the vicinity are to be found patches of good or ordinary timber.

This patch of Huronian slates is surrounded on the land side by Syenitic granite which send arms or dykes into the slates for more than a mile from the general line of contact I consider the geological conditions of this locality most favorable for metalliferous lodes

It is proposed to commence the works by building the mills for crushing and concentrating the ore at the same time set a few miners to drive in on the vein from the foot of the ascent which will give 70 feet overhead

Uninformed parties might think the building of the mill premature therefore the following reasons will explain —

(1) A few thousand dollars expended on mining would not be likely to throw much additional light on the matter yet might cripple the concern so that the Mill could not be got into operation without an additional supply of working capital

(2) Without milling the ore would be valueless as the freight on the associated mineral would eat up the profits

(3) The general showing of the lode and developments already show that there must be ore enough there to be worked out to justify the erecting of the mill

(4) There is only $10 000 to work upon and we want to make sure of getiing the mine advanced so as to begin making returns

There is a smali sheet of water passing partiy through ihe location the ouitei ot whtcb is convenient to the mine and presents a fati of 30 teet in 350 By huiiding a smali dam across a narrow gorge the little iake can be raised many feei and tt will answer admirably as a greai advan tage tn driving machinery and wash ing ore A tnterably good wagon road has been graded from ihe Copper Mine to ihe harbor — iength 2 t 3 mttes and a winter steigh road has been made to the siiver mine iength i i-4 mttes The works on tha two ndes in a direci tine are separated by t 3-4 miles of a rough mountainous country and by tha present roads which foitow the naturai vatleys to the harbor and jntn each other a half mile trom the shore the dtstance be- tween the two is aboui three miles

(2) MINERAL FEATURES — Tbe part ot ihe Coast on which ihis pro- perty occurs is occupted by Huronean Strata — metai bearing rocks of the Bruce Mine Distrtci and, according to Professor R Bett of the Geoiogical Snrvey of British Cotumbta and many nther mining iocaiiines and i might say ihai they are the precious metat bearing Strata ot the North Shore of Lake Snperior as ati the promising gotd dtscoveries tn ibe District as weti as some Stiver were made in the rocks and even the nther discoveries or the Thunder Bay Stiver Mines though most nt them at surtace occur in horizontai Strata the Hurenean un derite at no great depth and are i hetteve the source of the preetous ore On the tocatinns in quesiion the Strata conatai of fine micacions chlor- ttte talcose suicious and dioritic states with niterstratified massive di orite—ati ot whteh are cnt by numer- ons irap dykes of Stiinrian Age and in the vtcinity of the Copper Lode by tnmanse masses or dykes ot a coarse grained hnmbtende rock of Hurnnean Age The generat strike of the tormatine is N E and S W with a dip nearty vertical

The Copper lode at first sighi ap- pears to conform wiih the Stratifies tton hui upon a ctoser inspection tt shows a deviation in sirike at many degrees and its dtp is nearty perpendi cular A constderabte portton of the vein is hreccinted, peces nt tatcose he ing tnctnsed in a matrix of copper ore, of whteh minerats the vein is priici pally composed—quartz and magnitic being also present in smati qnantttes wtth the exceptinn nf one place where it presents two paraitel bands of ore four or five feei apart ii shows atong the outcoop a width of one to three teet with stringers nf quartz bearing copper ore to eiiher side The rich mineral varies from a few inches to twn teet in tbtcknem with in general, and accompanted by a foot or more of a iower grade ore The vein shows rich along the iength of exposure of 200 teet and tt shows equaity persis- tent in carrytng downwards the 488 ibs mass sent to ibe Paris Exposiiion as the heaviest ore taken out from tbe deepest point reached or ten teet from surface We cannot say how far the iode will carry rich at surface nor how rich it may prove to sinking but we know tbat there is a iorge quantity ot ore in sight to be worked out be- sides ibe indicaitons are favorable for and would seem to indtcate the exist ence nt ore at some place below there being a beli nt rock some 20 feet wide along the outcoop shewing numerous stringers of quartz with copper ore whteh in att prnbabiiity will join at a iower depth and make heavy bodies of ore again it is probable that the vein will make richer near the intersec- tinns nt dykes wbtch are covered by alluvial deposits on each side of ibe outcoop The dykes wbteh cross some 400 teet to the East being very large altering the Strata for some distance on either side both in colnr and tex ture and forming a deep valley through jhe mountain ranges where tt passes Veins nsually under similar circumstances make heavy ore against such dykes or cross-courses For example see Works on the veins of Cornwall or take the Wellington Mines Lake Huron the heavy depos- its ot ore were near the crossing of an immense dyke. The Wellington and the Pic lodes carry the same kind of copper ore but that of the former carries no gold and silver like that at the latter besides its ore is difficult to work as the gangue is composed

of quartz of the hardest kind while the Pic ore is principally associated with soft talcose state The ore as will be seen by the following assays and returns from Swansea, is comparatively a very rich ore of copper The test of 4½ tons in the rude state giving 10⅛ per cent of the metal, assay samples giving 25¼ of the metal and a shipment of four one half tons in the rude state without concentration yielding 10⅛ per cent Besides that it shows a fair yield of the precious metals ranging from $8 00 to $34 00 As the inclosing rocks are the true gold bearing formation of the country it would not be unreasonable for us to look for the free gold in sinking more especially as a vein (Heron Bay) in the same formation not 25 miles distant showed such a result the free gold not being visible at surface The Heron Bay promises to be a valuable mine but at present it is not working owing to some trouble between the owners Without reference to indication pointed out our calculations are based entirely upon the present showing of the lode in regard to the quantity of ore and upon the results obtained from the test of the 4½ tons in regard to the yield or value of same

Account Sales of Copper Ore ex Cornwall received at Swansea from New York via Bristol and sold for Account and risk of Messrs The Little Pic Mining Co

No	Purchasers	Date of Sale	Gross Weight	Moisture	Draftage	Net
36	London Copper Co	Apr 3rd	21C C Gross 4 9	Per lb 5 drs	Lb & Cwt 2½ per 3	21C 4
Weight C grs	Produce		Price			Amount
0	10⅛%		£ d 0 8			27 11 5 6.8
						27 18 1
20 Casks at 4-D						

	T C grs	$	CHARGES	$	
FREIGHT	5 2 0 @ 407—£10 40 1		5% primage 1072—£10 14 2		£19 19 1
Charges at New York	£5 14 1		Hoolage to yard 9711 Harbor Tolls at 4½D—$1711—£6 4 11		
91 days interest on above at 5% per annum					£ 4 2
Assaying @ $157					15 0
Landing Weight in and out, Crushing Mixing Sampling Delivering Warehouse Rent					1 4 0
Sale Commission and Guarantee £29 18 1 @ 1¼%					7 6
					£19 16 0
Net proceeds due June 9th 1877					£19 01 4

SWANSEA MAY 2nd, 1877

RICHARDSON & COMPANY

Assays made by Professor E. J Chapman for Copper Gold and Silver

"Metallic Copper"—	Gold	Silver
First Trial 25 40 per cent.	7 cwt	1 oz 7 dwt. 12 grs.
Second Trial 25 14 per cent		
Average Amount 25 27%		

The value of 25 27% ore, per ton at the low price of 17c per lb would be	$85 00
Value of Gold 7 dwt	7 21
Value of Silver, 1 oz–7 dwt. 12 grs	1.59
Amount in the ton	$93 80

Test for precious metals only by Chas Krissman Assaying & Mining Engineer for the Duncan Mine —

First Trial—Gold 1.1634 oz	$23 96
Silver 7 708 oz	10 03
Total per ton	$33 99
Second Trial—Gold 0 723 oz	$14 89
Silver 6 25 oz	7 82
Total per ton	$22 71

Repeated tests with the blow pipe show that the precious metals are always present in the ore in more or less quantities at Swanssa The precious metals were not considered nor accounted for

An approximate of the working capacity of the Copper Lode—Two men in four weeks mined the five tons sent to Swansea besides many tons of a lower grade ore left on the bank. Now after carefully considering the matter in all its bearings I have come to the conclusion that with the mine in regular operation with crusher and concentrating Mills and the mine opened out for stoping 30 tons of ore could be worked daily yielding at least 6 tons of 20% concentration ore at a cost of running expenses $750 00 Transportation to Swansea Commission and all would be less than $20 00 per ton Giving a result per day as follows —5 tons of 20% concentrated ore at 17c per lb—$350

5 tons of 20% concentrated ore at 17c per lb		$350 00
Running Expense	$150 00	
Cost of Transportation of five tons	100 00	
		$250 00
Leaving balance clear profits		$100 00

We propose to commence the works by building the Mills for crushing and concentrating the ore at the same time set a few miners to open out the vein As some may think such a course premature the following reasons will explain matters

1st. The ore cannot be sent to the market profitably until after it is concentrated or milled

2nd By any other course our capital would be too small to make us sure of carrying the mine as a working capital is being raised

3rd Owing to the general depression in money matters it would be difficult to raise a large working capital

4th The amount of mining done though small and the large amount of the ore tested along with the general showing and characteristics of the lode show that there is ore enough to be worked out to justify the erection of mills at once

5th A few thousand dollars expended in mining would not be likely to throw much additional light on the matter yet it might cripple us so that we would be unable to get the mill in operation without raising more capital

The location is a small lake passing partly through the outlet which is conveniect to the mine and presents a fall over 30 feet in 35 By building a small dam across a narrow gorge the little lake can be raised six feet and it will answer admirably as a reservoir for a water power its area being about 60 acres It can easily be secured from the winter frost By using water power instead of steam a very considerable saving in wood engineering etc will be accomplished in working the ore

APPROXIMATE ESTIMATES REQUIRED TO PLACE THE MINE IN RUNNING ORDER

Dam and Race —		
Dam and Work upon Race	$350 00	
Oak Lumber for Water Conductor	350 00	
Iron Bolts—etc. for Water Conductor	100 00	
Extras	250 00	
		$1,000 00

Crushing & Concentrating Mills —

Timber for Building 1500 feet	$ 150 00	
Common Lumber for Building 1500 feet	150 00	
Shingles 25M	100 00	
Nails Windows etc	100 00	
Water Wheel	400 00	
Work	300 00	
Crusher and Concentrator	1 600 00	
Extras	300 00	
		$3 100 00

Roads Buildings, etc —

Tramway Mine to Mill	$ 300 00	
Buildings	500 00	
Roads Repairing	500 00	
Scow	100 00	
Horses Wagon Sleigh etc	700 00	
Land that should be secured for wood and mill site	250 00	
Extras	300 00	
		$2 650 00
Total Amount		$5 750 00

BUILDINGS AND MINING PLANT UPON THE PROPERTY

On the Silver Location in good order are the following buildings and Mining Plant in good order belonging to the Company's Assets—all of which can be removed to the Copper Mine —

Engine and Shaft House 16 x 32 boarded inside and out with board roof.

A Dwelling House 12 x 32 of similar construction.

A five horsepower Engine and Boiler with the necessary material ready for hoisting

An Ingersol Rock Drill complete with a tunnel 200 feet iron tubing and 50 feet rubber tubing 600 feet of hoisting rope 2 mining buckets (one water and one rock) a blacksmith's large anvil and other tools, 300 to 400 pounds of steel drills half dozen picks pick axes shovels one large cooking stove half dozen mattresses, four pairs of blankets table dishes camp kettles and many other things useful to carrying on the Mine

The Steamer "Rescue", a Pioneer in Great Lakes Shipping

The following historical sketch of the Str Rescue one of the early boats to connect up Collingwood with Fort William is from the pen of Capt James McCannell of the C P R steamer Assiniboia

The Rescue came into considerable prominence in 1870 when on Sept 10th of that year she had as a passenger to Collingwood H R. H. Edward Prince of Wales

The Rescue was originally a twin screw tug built in Buffalo in 1855 her dimensions being 121-5 keel 22-9 beam and 10 feet depth her gross tonnage being 350

After buying it Capt Dick had a cabin put on and fitted the vessel for the Lake Superior trade as he had received the contract for carrying the mails for the Red River Settlement

According to the records of the American canal office the Rescue was the first registered Canadian steamer to pass through the locks making two round trips in July 1858

The first trip of the Rescue to Fort William is told as follows in a letter which appeared in the Toronto Globe but the authors name is now unknown —

Sir —As you have on all occasions taken a prominent part in advocating the opening up of the Hudson's Bay Territory and the north shore of Lake Superior I send you a log journal of the first trip of the Steamer Rescue Capt James Dick from Collingwood to Fort William

On this trip she fairly maintained her previous reputation for in a heavy gale of wind on the beam for many hours between Michipicoten Island and Fort William she made her 10½ miles per hour and during the gale was steady and free from any unpleasant motions We left Collingwood at 10 30 a m on the 12th July 1858 Capt. Kennedy being in charge of the mails for the Red River settlement We passed Cabot's Head at 6 30 p m Cove Island light at 9 p m (merely a lantern on the top of the lower visible about 2 miles on a clear night) passed between the middle and Western Ducks at 4 a. m at easy steam so as to enter Mississaga Straits in daylight at 11 20 a.m ran alongside the wharf at Bruce Mines landed mailed and wooded Under the kind supervision of Mr Davidson we inspected the process of extracting copper ore from the bowels of the earth We found that it contained 4% at the mouth of the pit and 25% barrelled up in the form of paste Sometime ago the Montreal Mining Company (owning the Bruce Mines) leased half their location to the Wellington Mining Company

There are in consequence within one mile separated by a small island two establishments forming one considerable town Arrived at Sault Ste Marie Pluis wharf (British side) at 7 p m landed mails and ran over to the American side for coals At 6 a m on the 14th entered the ship canal paying 6 cents per ton lockage dues

Mr Simpson of the Hudson's Bay Company very politely sent with us the Captain of their schooner to pilot us through to Pine Point where we engaged his son in law Alex Clark as pilot passed Whitefish Point Lake Superior at 10 a m Caribou Island at 4 30 p m This Island was so called from the circumstance of Capt Mc Hargo who accompanied Bayfield in his survey having on one occasion killed 60 Caribou on it At 6 p m we were close to "Rescue Harbor" Island of Michipicoten The harbor at Michipicoten is described by the pilot who has been fifteen years on the lake as superb and is so laid down by Bayfield The island is about 16 miles by 6 covered with spruce fir birch ash

and maple the latter growing on elevated ground There are several lakes in it, full of speckled trout, the bay is full of salmon trout and white fish A schooner was loaded here last season in a very short time with fish taken to, and about the harbor and the climate is said by old voyageurs to be far more pleasant during the winter than at the Sault and other places further south being of a drier nature Between the island and the main land is the most sheltered passage with two excellent harbors on each side one at Otters Creek and the other at Michipicoten River and harbor

The latter place is an important port of the Hudsons Bay Company distant from Moose Fort on Hudsons Bay 300 miles this has been passed over in canoes in six days Michipicoten Island is said to contain great mineral deposits—silver copper and lead The Quebec Mining Company have a location here At daybreak on Thursday we passed Slate Island and shortly after encountered a dense fog and lay to till 1 p.m it was two o'clock before we saw land Passed close to Thunder Cape a perpendicular rock rising from the water's edge 1350 feet. Anchored at Fort William situated at the mouth of the Kaministiquia River at 7 p.m. on Thursday the 15th and landed off the mail Owing to a bar and the shoal at the mouth of the river we anchored about a mile from the Fort early on Friday the 16th Some of the party went up the river to the Jesuit Mission about three miles where they were kindly received by the Priest.

Capt James Dick and Mr McMurrich went fishing to Current River about five miles to the north where the speckled trout proved too large and strong for their light rods and tackle smashing the tops of their lines and flies as fast as they were thrown in and they had to give it up for want of material One of the trout caught was the largest speckled trout I have seen for many years

There are trout in this stream and in all rapid streams between the Sault and Fort William from 2 lbs to 6 lbs and if larger ones are required at Nipegon River they can be caught from 8 lbs to 12 lbs Fancy each a pot ye disciples of Isaac Walton speckled trout to be had for the trouble of throwing a fly within 3½ days of Toronto weighing from two to twelve pounds In this ore to be found beautiful specimens of Amethyst and other precious stones The gardens at Fort William and the Jesuit Mission are as forward as those on the north part of the county of Simcoe The Hudson a Bay Company have a large farm 50 cows besides horses and sheep and up the river there are other farms, they raise oats barley and all other kinds of vegetables and I see no reason why they cannot raise wheat. Mrs McIntyre, the wife of the agent was very polite and kind and invited us all up to the Fort—gave us supplies of milk and vegetables

By this route their trade is carried on to Red River Sir George Simpson returned from Red River just before we arrived with two canoes (9 men to each) and left again for the Sault This bay Black Thunder, Nepigon Bay and Pic island bay and neighborhood abound in whitefish and trout—10 fish frequently fill a barrel—20 as a general rule nets should be 6½ to 7½ inch mesh Our pilot, two years ago in five weeks with two men filled 175 barrels He was furnished by merchants at the Sault with barrels and salt and $5 00 when returned full—the rate this year being about $4 00 Thirty barrels of white fish were taken at one haul of a seine near Fort William We left Fort William at 8 p.m for Grand Portage passing Mc Kay's Mount of Gresoalone 1000 feet perpendicular height La Pate on Pie Island 850 feet perpendicular this island is said to abound in lead hardly a stone can be picked up on the shore without lead in it On all these islands valuable stones can be picked up fit for brooches and rings

The channel being very intricate and the pilot not quite posted up we lay to till daylight and entered Grand Portage Bay at 5 a.m Capt. Kennedy landed here with the mails purchased a canoe and was ready to start before we left A nucleus of a town has already sprung up here on the United States side After giving Capt Kennedy a hearty shake of the hand all

round we started homeward at 7 15 a m and passed Copper Harbor at 2 p m Manitou light 5 50 p m Whitefish point 6 45 a m and on the 18th July entered Sault canal at 10 18 a.m Coaled on the American side and wooded on Pine's wharf British side Landed the mail and started at 2 45 p m came to the wharf at the Bruce Mines at 7 p.m—wooded and left at 7 40 p m passing through the Missaga Straits and the channel between the middle and West Duck On the 19th passed Cove Island light at 8 a. m —Cabot s Head at 10 a. m and came to the wharf at Collingwood at 5 p m thus making the first trip including delays and stoppages round Lake Superior in seven days and six hours. distance run taken from Bayfield s chart between 1350 and 1300 geographical miles The average speed running time being a little over 10 miles per hour The scenery throughout, and specially that of Superior is magnificent and now that the means of communication are afforded to this great and unknown region in a safe and commodious boat under the care of a well known and experienced captain it must became a favorite route for the tourist in search of health and picturesque scenery

—oOo—

AN INTERVIEW WITH CAPTAIN DICK OF THE S S. RESCUE.

(Copied originally from the Kingston Whig into the Thunder Bay Sentinel of June 28 1880)

Captain Dick, Inspector of Hulls was the first who navigated a steamer up to Fort William in Thunder Bay This was in 1858 The fact was an interesting one and the Whig reporter meeting the genial captain at the British American Hotel had quite a lengthened interview with him about it. He said that along in 1858 a company of Toronto people was formed and a contract given to them to carry mail from Collingwood to Fort Garry now Winnipeg Captain Dick and his brother went to Buffalo and purchased the Steamer Rescue a handsome craft The boat was originally built for service on the Florida coast but the company who had her in hand failed and the Dicks secured her for one-third her value The captain found her to be the safest steamer he had ever commanded The wildest gales did not disturb her

There was great opposition to the proposed opening up of the northwest, by the Hudson Bay Company and through their efforts the mail contract was abrogated and the Toronto gentlemen suffered great loss

Mr Dawson, now member for Algoma was engineer of the Toronto company s case He laid out the route for taking the mails through from Fort William Bridle paths were cut through to Dog Lake thence to Rainy River and down as far as the boundary line Boats were then dispatched down the Winnipeg river and finally the bags were carried across the plains to Fort Garry by Indians The first trip of the voyageurs was a dangerous one, and the mails went forward at the point of the revolver The Indians objected to the advance of civilization

My first trip was to Fort William, on the Rescue said the captain I had never been up the lakes before but by chart I succeeded in getting to my destination without touching stick or stone It was a bright moonlight night when I anchored off Fort William and in ten minutes afterwards the boat was surrounded by a hundred canoes They were filled with Indians who had silently swept over to see the monster but they would not come near the vessel Presently the H B Co s factor approached in a huge gondola rowed by twenty Indians who sang their boating songs The night was pleasantly spent in conversation with the factor who pointed out the night being very clear the magnificent territory which the H B Company controlled The company afterwards charged exorbitantly for everything that we wanted They were opposed to our going into the country and finally succeeded in getting our contract cancelled.

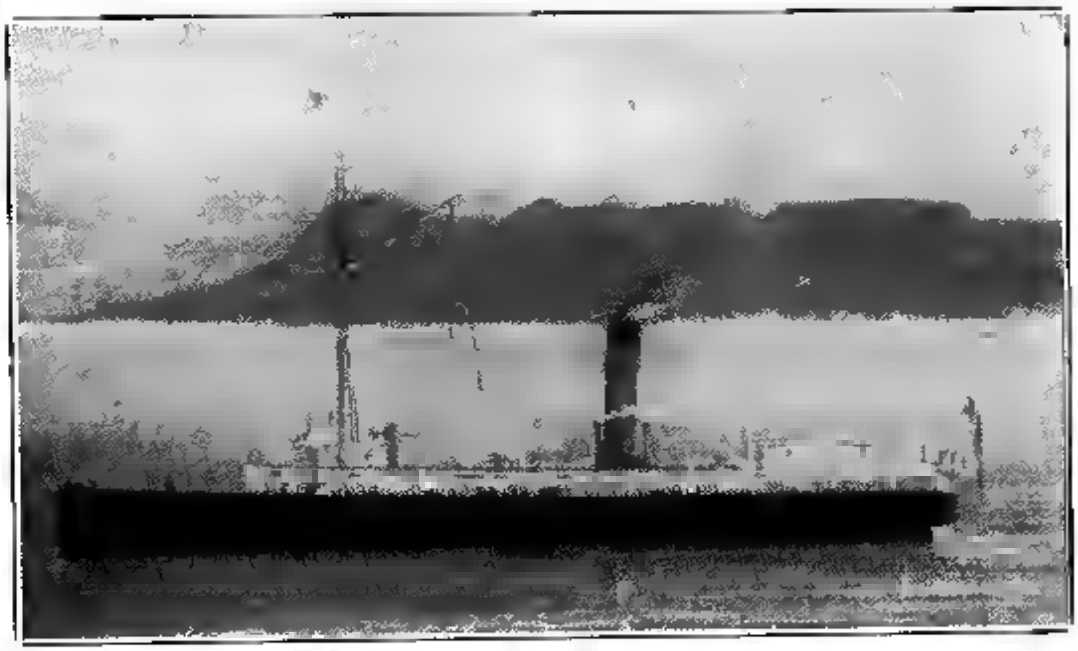
We had much trouble in keeping our canoe stations intact Once that at Dog Lake was torn down and the boats scattered I later bought one of our own boats at Fort William but as soon as t discovered our brand beneath the seat t refused to pay for it We used coal oc our trips up and wood going down We bought land where Port Arthur is now and we think we still have a claim there The governmeot sold it without our leave but the money we paid tor it lies in the Crown Lands Office and we intend to have a retund or some satisfactioo soon Many a time t have taken on wood at Port Arthur When t first went up the lakes there were only three white men living on the route.

"What did you get" inquired the reporter, "for carrying the mails?

"We got twelve hundred dollars a trip

"Did you corry much mail?"

The first mail t took up consisted of two letters and three papers Previously the mail for the Hudson Bay factors was sent in from the Hudson Bay



STEAMER "RESCUE"

Built at Buffalo N Y 1855 (official No 33528) Length between perpendiculars 121 ft 5 in Beam 22 ft 9 in Depth 10 ft. Tons 248 net 350 gross

This was the first registered Canadian steamer to pass through the Old State Lock at Sautte Ste Marie Mich in July 1856 trading from Cottingwood to Fort William and to Grand Portage, carrying passengers mail and freight Capt. Dick heink the commander When the Prince of Wales (King Edward VII) visited Cotlingwood Sept. 10th t860 this steamer took the Royal party for a trip around the harbor

Narrative of the Canadian Red River Exploring Expedition of 1857

On account of its local interest Mr Alex McNaughton copied this chapter from a rare book belonging to the Government Library in Ottawa and presented the copy to the Historical Society

By Henry Youle Hind M.A. F.R.G.S.
Professor of Chemistry and Geology in the University of Trinity College Toronto

in charge of the Assiniboine and Saskatchewan Expedition

CHAPTER II

The Kamtaistiquia Route — Fort William — Lake Superior to the Height of Land

THUNDER BAY which receives the waters of the Kamlotstiquia (spelt Kamhistikwoya by Sir Jno Richardson "the river that runs far inland") forms a portion of the north west expansion of Lake Superior It is the most southerly of three large and deep indented bays which characterize that part of the coast and it is situated between the parallels 48° 15' north latitude and in longitude 89° and 89° 25' west at Greenwich Its greatest length in a north easterly direction is 32 miles and its breadth from Thunder Cape to the mouth of the Kamlatstiquia upon which Fort William is situated about 14 miles

The main entrance to the bay is between the impostog headlands of Thunder Cape 1250 feet above the lake level and Pie Island 5 miles southwest of the Cape with an altitude of 850 feet The depth of water in this broad entrance exceeds 180 feet and a measure of 60 to 120 feet is maintained in many parts of the bay

Seven miles southeast of Thunder Cape the lake is 820 feet deep with a muddy bottom.

Immediately opposite and east of the three mouths of the Kamlatstiquia the Welcome Islands are distant about two miles and inside of these islands from 30 to 60 feet of water is shown on Bayfield's chart. Within half a mile of the river's mouth the water shoals rapidly and the bar has a variable depth of 3½ to 5½ feet of water upon it but within 1000 yards of the north or main channel, 13 to 14 feet of water is maintained Land is forming fast near the mouths of the river and large areas in advance of the increasing delta sustain a thick growth of rushes

At a distance of about half a mile from the exit of the northern or main channel Fort William is situated upon the left or north bank Opposite to it is a large island formed by the middle channel of the Kamlatstiquia which branches off from the main stream about one and a half mile from the bay In the time of the North West Company this island was deforested of the trees it sustained which consisted mainly of hemlock for fuel and other purposes and the greater portion is now covered with second growth A large area south of the fort still remains denuded of wood and forms the site of an Ojibway village besides serving as an excellent open pasture ground for a herd of cows belonging to the Hudson's Bay Company which swim across the river every morning a distance of 400 feet and return at an early hour in the afternoon to the farm yard in the vicinity of the fort

The banks of the river here are low and flat not exceeding ten feet in altitude. In the rear of the fort tamarack of small but dense growth prevails The soil is a light sandy loam reposing on yellowish clay

Two miles above the fort and in a direction nearly south from it, the third or southern outlet separates from the main channel The banks of the river continue to rise above the level of its waters until they attain at the Mission of the Im-

maculate Conception at altitude of 18 or 20 feet Near the Mission the Indian Reserve of about 25 square miles begins It embraces the best and largest area of cultivable land in the valley of the Kamlanstiquia, and much of it being situated on the flanks of McKay's mountain range, some portions possess many advantages which do not belong to the available tracts near the shores of Thunder Bay

The general course of the river above the Mission for a distance of nine miles is towards the southwest by very tortuous windings Five miles from Fort William it approaches the base of the elevated but broken table lands to which McKay's Mountain forms an imposing and abrupt termination McKay's Mountain has an elevation of 1000 feet above the lake and is the north-eastern boundary of an irregular but extended trap range whose south-eastern flank follows the trend of the coast as far as Pigeon River

It is worthy of remark that the flanks of Mackay's Mountain support a heavy growth of hardwood timber (maple etc) and through various sources I was informed that this heavily timbered land stretches far to the southwest on the side and borders of the trap range The rock formations which comprise the country between the Kamlanstiquia and Pigeon Rivers indicate the presence of a fertile soil on the flank of the irregular table land the trap with which the slates are associated giving rise upon disintegration to a soil of superior character At the Mission a light reddish loam constitutes the soil having a depth of six feet, and resting upon a bluish grey clay which extends to the water's edge

The Mission of the Immaculate Conception is under the charge of the Rev Jean Pierre Choss who has resided on the banks of the Kamlanstiquia for nine years From that gentleman who kindly afforded me much information respecting this valley I obtained numerous facts of interest in relation to its adaptation for settlement. At the Mission there are already congregated from thirty to thirty five houses(substantially built of wood) to their general arrangement and construction they are far superior to the log houses of Canadian pioneers in the forest. Many of them have gardens attached to them a few of which were in a good state of cultivation some small fields fenced with post and rail were in the rear of the most thriving The river here is from 60 to 70 yards wide its waters are very turbid with a current not exceeding two miles an hour

M Chosse's room into which we were admitted gave us a clue to the prosperity cleanliness, and appearance of industry which distinguished the Mission A young tame partridge was hopping about the floor when we entered A number of books occupied a small table in one corner the other was taken up by a turning lathe and various articles manufactured by the cure were lying about the room A low bed covered with a buffalo robe filled another corner and while we were conversing an old chief dressed in scarlet cloth quietly entered and placed himself on a chair by the side of a small carpenter's bench which filled the remaining angle

Among many interesting facts with which we were furnished by the kindness of M Chone we learned various particulars respecting the condition of the Indians and their relation to the government of Canada which an inspection of the treaty confirmed

In 1850 a treaty was concluded by the Hon W B Robinson on behalf of Her Majesty and the Government of the Province with the Chiefs of the Ojibway Indians inhabiting the northern shore of Lake Superior from Batchewanaung Bay to Pigeon River and inland to the height of land between Canada and the territories in the occupation of the Hudson's Bay Company For the sum of £2000 currency and an annual payment of £200 to be paid at Fort William and Michipicoten the chiefs surrendered all their right and title to the above territory with the exception of the following reserves made over to them for the purposes of residence and cultivation, allowance being given under certain reasonable restrictions that they shall still hunt over the territory and fish in the waters as heretofore The

number of Indians included in this treaty was 1240 The reservations made for their benefit were as follows

First For Joseph Peau de Chat and his tribe the reserve to commence about two miles from Fort William on the right bank of the River Kamiostiquia thence westerly six miles parallel to the shores of the Lake thence northerly five miles thence easterly to the right bank of the said river so as not to interfere with any acquired rights of the Honorable Hudson s Bay Company

Second Four miles square at Gros Cap for Po-to-mi-nai and tribe and

Third Four miles square on Gull River near Lake Superior on both sides of the river for the chief Mishkemuck-qua

Our Iroquois being desirous of going to mass at the Mission on Sunday August 2nd several of the party accompanied them and witnessed the rather rare spectacle of a numerous and most attentive Indian congregation engaged in Christian worship The chapel is a very spacious and well-constructed building of wood with a semi-circular ceiling painted light blue. The walls were panelled to the height of about four feet and altogether the interior arrangements and decorations exceeded our anticipations and everywhere showed the industrious hand or intelligent direction of the Rev M Chone The Indians forming the regular congregation were arranged in the most orderly manner the left side of the chapel being appropriated to the men and boys the right to the women and girls. The boys and girls were placed in front of their seniors The men were provided with forms the women sat upon the floor The utmost decorum prevailed throughout the service and the chanting of both men and women was excellent that of the squaws being remarkably low and sweet. Few of the male portion of the congregation took their eyes from the priest or their books during the service The squaws drew their shawls or blankets over the head and showed the utmost attention The Cure delivered a long sermon in the Ojibway language with much energy and seemingly with the greatest fluency After the ordinary service of the day was over being before requested by one of our party he delivered an admirable sermon in French. His style language and manner were of a very superior order and the drift of his words seemed to go far to shadowing forth the philanthropic impulses which sustained him in his solitary work of love so remote from society, comfort, and civilization

In the afternoon I visited the mouth of Current River six miles from Fort William The river reaches the Lake by a succession of stepping falls over an argillaceous rock which in the aggregate exceed forty feet in height within half a mile from the lake The common chive was found occupying in abundance the cracks and fissures of the shale on the banks of the river

I visited during the day the garden of the fort its area is about 1¾ acres The shallots were small but the potatoes looked well being at the time in flower and Mr McIntyre thinks that varieties may be found which will ripen well near the fort Tomatoes do not ripen here turnips and cabbages are very liable to be destroyed by the cut worm or grub the currant bushes procured from the forest flourish admirably and produce a very large berry the red currant was just beginning to ripen This part of the country appears to abound in currants raspberries strawberries and gooseberries they were seen growing in the woods in every direction where direct light penetrated A patch of oats in the garden showed a most remarkable development of stalk and leaf and the ears were beginning to show themselves The soil of the garden was brought from the foot of the Kakabeka Falls in the time of the North West Company s glory

The average period when the Kamanistiquia freezes is from the third to the fifteenth of November and it becomes free from ice between the twentieth and twenty third April The year 1857 proved an exception in many respects the ice did not pass out of the river until the thirteenth of May and on the first of August the day of my visit the waters of the river were

higher than they had ever been known before at that season of the year

Indian corn will not succeed in this settlement, early and late frost cutting it off Frost occurs here under the influence of the cold expanse of Lake Superior until the end of June and begins again towards the end of August. A few miles further up the river west of McKay's Mountain the late and early are of rare occurrence, and it was stated that Indian corn would ripen on the flanks of McKay's Mountain

All kinds of small grain succeeds well at the Mission and the reason why they have not been more largely cultivated is owing to the want of a mill for the purpose of converting them into flour or meal Near the lake at Fort William for instance oats do not always ripen, the cold air from the lake whose surface, thirty and fifty miles from land, showed a temperature of 39° 5' at the close of the hottest month of the year is sufficient to prevent many kinds of vegetables from acquiring maturity which succeed admirably four or five miles up the river

Fragments of limestone have been procured in the neighborhood but the locality could not be pointed out by any of its inhabitants The ruins of a lime kiln, used by the North West Company, have been discovered and it is very probable that the limestone was obtained from crystalline layers, the existence of which has been established over wide areas in Thunder Bay by Sir William Logan and are noticed by him as being of a reddish white color and very compact, some of which would yield good material for burning These beds of impure limestone are mentioned by Mr Murray (geological survey of Canada for 1846-7) as occurring in the lower portions of the formation occupying this valley

It is worthy of notice that substantial records of far more extensive settlements than now exist showing a much higher degree of civilization and improvement are found at or near the various posts along this route and particularly at Fort William

Most of these remains of former industry and art date from the time when the North West Company occupied the country, and there is reason to believe that much valuable knowledge respecting the resources of particular localities has been forgotten or is hidden in the memories of those who may not have the opportunity to make it known

Mr Keating mentions the ruins of the old Fort de Meuron erected by Lord Selkirk He was also shown the remains of a winter road opened by that enterprising nobleman from the Kaministiquia to the Grand Portage on the Pigeon River, about thirty six miles distant The remains of a road to White Fish Lake is also still to be seen and indeed it forms a winter route for half breeds and Indians at the present day between the lakes on the Pigeon River and the valley of the Kaministiquia The Canadian government have recently laid out the valley of the Kaministiquia below the Kakabeka Falls into two townships names respectively Paipoonge and Neebing

On the Third of August we prepared for our immediate departure and were all ready with the exception of the Iroquois Indians by 10 a. m The delay with them arose from an indisposition to separate and be associated in different canoes with the Ojibways we were obliged to hire by noon however an arrangement was made it being determined that one brigade of three canoes should proceed at once the other follow on the morrow Just before starting a large body of heathen Indians from the camp on the opposite side of the river came over in a number of small canoes and commenced a dance outside of the pickets of the fort They were painted and feathered in various ways and furnished an admirable subject for our artists Having danced on the outside of the fort for some minutes they entered and arranged themselves in a semi circle in the quadrangle The medicine man and his assistant, gaudily painted and decked with eagles feathers sat on the ground beating a drum and near to them squatted some half dozen squaws with a few children About sixty men and boys headed by the chief painted and feathered similar to the medicine man, danced

or jumped around the ring. Our party being collected in front of the chief he made a short speech which was interpreted by a half-breed attached to the expedition in the following effect. They were happy to see us on the soil, they were hungry and required food and trusted to our generosity and the plenty by which we were surrounded. The pipe of peace was then lit and handed in turns for each to take a whiff. The picture of a hand across the mouth and cheek was admirably drawn in black on the faces of the chief and medicine-man. The Ka-ki whe-on or insignia consisted of eagles feathers stuck in a strip of red cloth about four feet long, and attached to a cedar pole. The whole scene was highly ridiculous and many of the performers were wretched looking creatures being dreadfully affected with scrofula. Some of the men however, possessed splendid looking figures but the progress of civilization will soon close the history of these wretched Indians of the Kamin-istiquia.

Our first brigade consisting of two large five fathom and one middle size canoe containing twenty-six men in all started from Fort William at 5 p.m. and arrived opposite McKay's Mountain at about half past six. Half a mile above the mission we noticed a very neat house in a clearing of about ten acres in extent, the last effort of civilization in the scene, with the exception of an occasional post of the Hudson's Bay Company for many hundred miles. The first camp was pitched about three quarters of a mile beyond McKay's Mountain.

Opposite this magnificent exposure of trap the clay banks of the river are about 14 feet high and continue to rise on one side or the other until they attain an elevation of nearly 60 feet, often however retiring from the present bed of the river and giving place to an alluvial terrace some 8 or 10 feet in altitude, and clothed with the richest profusion of grasses and twining flowering plants. The current begins to be rapid about nine miles above Fort William soon after passing Point de Meuron, the site of the fort established by Lord Selkirk before referred to and continues so in the ascending course of the stream to the foot of the first demi-portage, called the Decharges des Paresseux, where an exposure of shale creates the rapids which occasion the portage. The fall here is five feet 1 inch in a space of 924 feet. The distance of this portage from the lake by the windings of the river is about 22¼ miles, and the total rise probably reaches 35 feet.

The current continues rapid to the foot of the Grand Falls and high rock exposures commence on the precipitous banks three miles below them. These gradually assume the form of mural cliffs, capped with drift, increasing in altitude until they attain at the foot of the Grand Falls, the height of about 160 feet on the left bank, while on the opposite side of the river the mountain portage path winds round the steep hill side of a bold projecting escarpment, 91 feet in altitude, and nearly half a mile from the falls.

At our camp seven miles below the Grand or Kakabeka Falls (cleft rock) as they are termed the level of the river was estimated to be 40 feet above Lake Superior and the foot of the falls 16 feet higher. The Grand Falls themselves are found by levelling to have an altitude of 119·05 feet, and involved a portage of 62 chains or three quarters of a mile. They are distant from the mouth of the river by its windings about 30 miles and in an air line 17 miles.

As the altitude of these falls has attracted the attention of several observers, the different results obtained may not be without interest:—

Altitude ascertained by levelling (Mr Dawson August, 1857)	119·05
Capt. (now Col.) Lefroy's barometrical measurement	119·00
Mr Murray of the Canadian Geological Survey	119·00
Major Delafield	125·00
Sir John Richardson Barometrical Measurement,	127·00
Lieuts. Scott and Denny	130·00

Assuming the height of Kakabeka to be 119 feet, the summit will be 175 feet above Lake Superior. This result includes the rapids at the foot of the falls. The levels were taken along the portage path, and if the rapids be deducted, the true height of Kakabeka probably does not exceed 105 feet.

The scenery of the Grand Falls is extremely beautiful. The river precipitates its yellowish-brown water over a sharp ledge into a narrow and profound gorge. The plateau above the portage cliff and nearly on a level with the summit of the falls, is covered with a profusion of blueberries, strawberries, raspberries, pigeon cherry, and various flowering plants, among which the bluebell was most conspicuous. On the left side of the falls a loose talus is covered with wild mint and grasses which grow luxuriantly under the spray. Beautiful rainbows of very intense colour are continually projected on this talus, when the position of the sun and the clearness of the sky are favorable. Numerous small springs trickle down a perpendicular cliff of about 12 feet in altitude at the base of the talus whose coolness and clearness, compared with the warm coloured waters of the river, make them a delicious beverage, the difference between the temperature of the spring and river being about 20°. The right side of the cliff at the falls is perpendicular for a height of more than 100 feet, and exposes the stratification with perfect fidelity. The peculiar rounded forms into which the rock divides itself, noticed by Mr. Murray, were well marked.

The alluvial valley of the river from about three miles below the mountain portage to Fort William varies in breadth from a few hundred yards to one mile, the breadth occupied by land of a quality which might fit it for agricultural purposes extends to near the summit of the flanks of a low table land which marks the true limit of the river valley, and the average breadth of this may be double that of the strictly alluvial portion.

The low table land is thinly wooded with small pine, and the soil is poor and dry; the alluvial valley sustains elm, aspen, balsam poplar, and butternut, and a very luxuriant profusion of grasses, vetches, and climbing plants, among which the wild hop, honeysuckle, and convolvulus, are the most conspicuous. The rear portion of the valley with an admixture of the trees just named, contains birch, balsam, spruce, white and black spruce, and some heavy aspens. The undergrowth embraces hazelnut, cherries of two varieties, etc.

Occasionally the flanks of the low table land approach the river, contract the valley, and give an unfavourable aspect to the country. This occurs near the Decharges des Paresseux, and at most of the heavier rapids. The area available for agricultural purposes below the Grand Falls probably exceeds twenty thousand acres; but if the flanks of McKay's Mountain be included in the estimate a large addition may with propriety be assumed.

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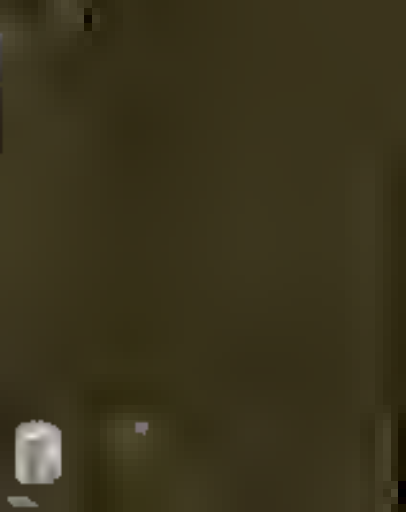

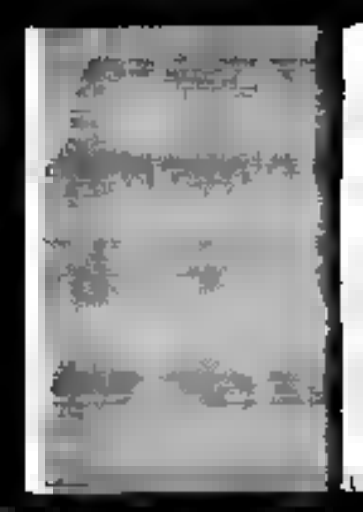

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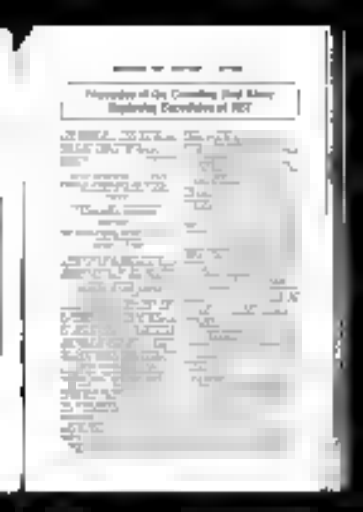
The Little Fir Silver Mine